Wolverhampton
CHRONICLE

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Distribution centre at risk as 1,000 Tata roles to go

NEW THREAT TO STEEL JOBS

Report by Simon Penfold

BLACK Country steel jobs could be at risk after Tata announced more than 1,000 roles will be axed as part of widespread cuts in its nationwide operation.

Job cuts at the major Steelpark distribution centre at Wednesfield have not been ruled out. Around 750 jobs will go at the company's huge plant at Port Talbot, south Wales, but another 200 in 'support functions' also face the axe.

A Tata Steel spokesman said the firm could not rule out job cuts at the major Steelpark distribution centre at where most of the company's 600 Black Country workers are employed.

He said a 45-day consultation process being carried out nationwide would determine where jobs will be cut.

The Wednesfield site handles steel produced at Port Talbot, as does the company's smaller operation at Brierley Hill, which has a railhead directly linked to Tata's South Wales steelmaking plants.

As well as the 750 Port Talbot roles and 200 support jobs, 100 positions are to be cut at steel mills in Llanwern, Trostre, Corby and Hartlepool.

Critical

Karl Koehler, chief executive of Tata Steel's European operations, said: "I know this news will be unsettling for all those affected, but these tough actions are critical in the face of extremely difficult market conditions which are expected to continue for the foreseeable future.

"We need the European Commission to accelerate its response to unfairly traded imports and increase the robustness of its actions. Not doing so threatens the future of the entire European steel industry. While we welcome progress on UK energy costs, the Government must take urgent action to increase the competitiveness of the UK for its vital steel sector. This includes lowering business rates and supporting energy efficiency and anti-dumping cases so we can compete fairly."

The Government was accused of 'fast talking but slow delivery' by unions, which said the latest news was devastating. The Community union said it will 'vigorously' challenge the company's proposals.

General secretary Roy Rickhuss said: "The announcement is no reflection of the skills and commitment of the Tata Steel workforce, which has been breaking production records over the past year. Rather, it is yet another chapter of the UK's ongoing steel crisis and the lack of a proper Government response."

Gareth Stace, director of trade body UK Steel, said: "This is deeply disappointing news and I am very concerned about the future of the plant and community. This is a site of critical importance to our national industrial infrastructure."

The Black Country has already been hit with the collapse of Oldbury-based engineering group Caparo Industries.

Unsettling news – the Tata site in Wednesfield, which handles steel produced at Port Talbot, could face job cuts

Aldi staffing boost in store

DISCOUNT supermarket Aldi is to create almost 350 jobs at its shops across the West Midlands, it has been announced.

A range of roles are being advertised at more than 30 shops in the region as the chain continues to thrive.

Bosses say the jobs are being created at new supermarkets in the region and existing branches.

The company is on the lookout for 135 store assistants, 90 stock assistants, 35 deputy store managers and 57 assistant managers. Two store managers are wanted while 25 caretaker roles are also available.

Shoppers have flocked to the Aldi shop which opened on the site of the landmark Goodyear plant in Wolverhampton in 2011 as part of a major renovation of the area which included a housing development.

Jobs are up for grabs there as well as other Wolverhampton shops on Goldthorn Hill and Howard Street and at Bentley Bridge in Wednesfield.

Boom

It comes just six months after Aldi made 150 jobs available at its supermarkets in the Black Country and Staffordshire.

Aldi's presence is continuing to grow in the Black Country, with its latest supermarket opening on Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury, in October. A shop will also be built on the site of the former King Arthur pub, which was demolished last week, on the Birmingham New Road in Dudley.

Jobs are already being advertised for that supermarket, which is expected to open later this year.

The discount chain has enjoyed a boom in recent years with many shoppers choosing to turn their backs on the traditional supermarket giants.

Roles are also being advertised in Brownhills, Brierley Hill, Great Barr, Halesowen, Wednesbury and at the new branch in Oldbury.

TRAGEDY

Driver dies after his car hits tree

A DRIVER died after his sports car crashed into a tree and lamp post on a main road between Bridgnorth and Stourbridge.

Passing drivers attempted to save 24-year-old Lee Wassell, of Clee View Road, Wombourne, following the crash on the A458 Bridgnorth Road, near the turning for Stourbridge Rugby Club between Stourbridge and Stourton, but he was pronounced dead at the scene by paramedics.

Tributes have flooded his Facebook page describing him as a "loving bloke".

RACECOURSE

£10 bet nets lucky punter £245,000

A GAMBLER who put just £10 on seven winners at Wolverhampton Racecourse based solely on their names has scooped £245,000.

The lucky punter bet on a 'win accumulator' which required all the selections to come first if he was to win.

The 34-year-old motor mechanic backed this up with a £10 each-way accumulator, allowing for his selections to finish in second place. Remarkably all seven horses were first over the line at the racecourse, off Dunstall Park.

ACTIVE

City centre on track for new cycle route

A £156,000 new cycle route will be introduced in Wolverhampton city centre in a bid to get people more active.

Wolverhampton council is creating the route in St George's Parade. It will kick-start the city's 20-year Active Travel Strategy, approved by the cabinet.

Deputy council leader Councillor Peter Bilson, said: "The Active Travel Strategy is built around a vision for Wolverhampton to become a city where active travel modes become the preferred choice."

Proposals see a two-way cycle route which will connect to cycling facilities in Garrick Street.

INSIDE

Lift off! New £6m youth zone opens

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CONTACT US

EDITORIAL:
Tel: 01902 319363
E-mail: wolverhampton.chronicles@expressandstar.co.uk

SPORTS:
Tel: 01902 319453
E-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHIC:
Tel: John Sambrooks 01902 319431

ADVERTISING: Sue Tolley
Tel: 01902 3196420
E-mail: sue.tolley@expressandstar.co.uk

PROPERTY: John Darby
Tel: 01902 319627
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Listed status for former sex club denied

Wheaton Aston Old Hall

A FORMER sex club will not become a listed building after councillors rejected calls from a neighbouring authority.

Brewood and Coven Parish Council wanted Old Hall, on the A5 at Ivetsey Bank, to be listed but Wheaton Aston Council overwhelmingly rejected the plans.

The 18th century Old Hall used to host Utopia, a popular adult venue for couples who would swap partners and use the venue's 15-metre heated indoor swimming pool, 16-person jacuzzi and sauna and steam room.

But Utopia dissolved in 2007 and the building has remained derelict ever since, with the site now boarded up with blacked out windows and in a run-down state. Before Utopia, Old Hall used to be a health spa.

Gateway

Brewood and Coven council wanted it to be listed because of the current state of the building, which they consider to be a gateway into Bishops Wood. They it would help restore Old Hall to its former glory.

But after seeking advice, Wheaton Aston councillors opted not to apply for the building to be listed, largely due to the concerns over the restrictions it would place on any future buyer.

Debra Bate, Wheaton Aston's parish council manager, said: "Brewood and Coven asked if we would consider applying to have the building listed as they were disappointed with the way the building looked.

"The advice we got was that when you have a building listed any buyer that wants to do work to the building has to adhere to a lot more restrictions and laws, so having it listed makes it more difficult for a potential buyer.""

Takeover bid brings fears for Argos jobs

THREE Argos stores in Wolverhampton could be closed and jobs lost as Sainsbury's look to take over the retailer and relocate sites within supermarkets.

This would impact on around a quarter of stores, experts believe.

Sainsbury's made the revelations after it set out its case for a £1 billion-plus takeover of Home Retail Group, which incorporates both Argos and Homebase.

The stores in the Wulfrun Centre, Bilston and Bentley Bridge Retail Park are all under threat. It is believed the city's Homebase store will be unaffected by the proposed takeover.

In a presentation outlining its plans, Sainsbury's said it would look to shut a number of the 734 stores in the Argos chain and bring them into its supermarkets as concessions.

Leases

Retail experts believe between 150 and 200 Argos stores could be impacted and that places all 16 in the Black Country and Staffordshire under threat, including the three in Wolverhampton.

Councillor Roger Lawrence, the leader of the council, believes any deal is a long way off and played down fears.

He said: "They have said they will look at leases as they come to an end but I don't know what their commercial arrangements are in Wolverhampton. It's best not to be too alarmist about it at this stage."

On top of the three in Wolverhampton, Argos has stores in Walsall, two in Cannock, in West Bromwich, Smethwick, Oldbury, two in Dudley and at the Merry Hill Centre, one in Halesowen one in Rugeley, two in Stafford and one in Lichfield.

No indication has so far been given on what might happen to Argos's distribution centre in Stafford.

Speaking on the proposed closures, Sainsbury's Chief Executive Mike Coupe said that overall it could expand the Argos chain by rolling out concessions in supermarkets nationwide.

Sainsbury's have until February 2 to make a firm bid for the Argos and Homebase owners under the City Takeover Panel's so-called 'put up or shut up' deadline.

Wings clipped for charity air show

Air shows have thousands of car and plane enthusiasts and boosted charity coffers

AN air show which raises thousands for charity every year is in jeopardy after bosses at Wolverhampton's Halfpenny Green Airport pulled out of being host.

Organisers of the Wings and Wheels shows, at Easter and August bank holiday, have been left 'absolutely devastated'.

Airport chiefs say only that after providing a venue for the several years, they no longer wish to do so.

The shows raise money for local air cadets, scouts and other charities, and help to fund Tettenhall Museum of Transport Trust, which now also faces an uncertain future.

Event organiser Vaughan Meers said he was bewildered by airport chiefs' change of heart but vowed that the show would go on.

He said: "I'm shocked and absolutely devastated. To pull out at this late stage, when it takes months to organise a show. We've been given no reason for the decision, it's a disgrace."

Around 5,000 people flocked to last year's two-day August event which starred The Red Arrows and raised £9,000 for charity.

It was the Wings and Wheels' sixth consecutive year at the Bobbington site. Mr Meers said they had been planning a special show this year to mark its 75th anniversary as an airfield.

He is trying to find an alternative venue and is currently in discussion with Sleap Airfield in Shropshire, and sites in Worcestershire and Leicestershire.

Driver put stepfather at risk of prosecution

A DRIVER put his stepfather at risk of prosecution in a bid to dodge a speeding fine, a judge heard.

Mark Barnett had six penalty points on his licence and 'panicked' when the summons arrived at the family home, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

His stepfather was listed as the car's registered keeper after helping him to buy it, said Mr Harinderpal Dhami, prosecuting. But it was insured in the name of the 21-year-old who was at the wheel when the vehicle triggered a speed camera while travelling at 51 mph in a 40 limit on the Black Country Route near Wednesbury on April 22 last year.

Confessed

Letters were sent to him and his stepfather asking who was driving. The older man had ultimate responsibility to ensure the information was provided. But the defendant intercepted all the mail and kept it while also allegedly falling victim to a scam, paying a mystery man £150 to make details of the speeding offence 'disappear,' the court heard.

Four months later Barnett finally confessed to his mother and went voluntarily to the police to confess. Miss Saleema Mahmood, defending, said: "He behaved in a reckless, immature manner. He had six penalty points and panicked."

Barnett, of previous good character, from Church Green, Bilston admitted attempting to pervert the course of justice. He was given an eight month prison sentence suspended for a year with £150 hours unpaid work and £500 costs.

N-ice addition to fish restaurant

A FORMER pub which is being turned into a fish and chip restaurant will be extended with an ice cream parlour under new plans.

The Island House on Stafford Road, Wolverhampton is currently being revamped. The 115-year-old building has been derelict since 2007.

Now owners have submitted plans to build a single storey side extension to create an ice cream parlour which would provide takeaway and have a seating area. Planners at Wolverhampton council will make a decision at a later date.

Since the pub closed, three failed attempts to put a KFC on the site were lodged before new owner Andrew Callega was given planning permission to turn the building into a fish and chip restaurant and gastro bar.

Homes planned for nursery site

PLANS are in for 12 houses on the site of a nursery in a village near Codsall.

Seven detached and five semis are proposed for land at H S Hommers Terrace Nurseries in Oaken. The business is looking to relocate nearby.

A council decision is due this week.

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Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

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We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

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Council tax 2pc rise to be spent on social care

COUNCIL bosses have approved a two per cent rise in council tax to be spent on adult social care while criticising the government for introducing the policy.

Wolverhampton council's cabinet pushed through the social care precept – announced by George Osborne in his Autumn Statement – at a meeting last week.

It gives local authorities the option of raising the tax by two per cent above any ordinary hike on condition it is spent on adult social care, one of the biggest expenses councils face.

Burden

If an additional 1.99 per cent rise is approved in March it will mean an increase for residents in Band A of £37.03 a year and for those in Band D of £54.65 a year.

Finance chief Councillor Andrew Johnson said he backed the introduction of the social care precept "with no great gladness" and accused the Chancellor of pushing the 'blame' for taxation onto local authorities.

"This is a clear move by George Osborne which gives the burden of the collection of this money to councils so it is the councils that get the blame from the public," he said.

"This is additional money we have to collect to ensure adult care remains sustainable."

Councillor Johnson said it had been made clear to him by government officials there was an expectation that councils would adopt the social care precept for each of the next four years.

Gazza 'joke' is referred to CPS

POLICE have passed information to the Crown Prosecution Service after an investigation was launched into an alleged hate crime following Paul Gascoigne's show at Wolverhampton Civic Hall.

West Midlands Police launched a hate crime investigation after Gazza allegedly made a racist joke during a performance on November 30.

The complaint is believed to be about a 'joke' the former England star made about a black security guard during the show.

Hannah Fitzgerald at West Midlands Police said: "Information has been passed on to the Crown Prosecution Service who will decide whether there are grounds whether to take the matter further."

Wing your way to Birdwatch event

TWITCHERS keen to get involved in the national Big Garden Birdwatch should take a trip to the Kingswood Trust near Albrighton on Saturday.

Details on 01902 558132, or email: kingswood@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Poundland boss tells of teacher snub

Jim McCarthy in his doctorate robes

THE boss of Poundland revealed that teachers said he would never make anything of his life, as he picked up a top university honour.

Jim McCarthy was awarded an honorary doctorate by Birmingham City University recognising his outstanding achievements in business, during a ceremony held at the city's Symphony Hall last Monday.

Mr McCarthy's career spans 40 years, including 10 as chief executive of operations for Willenhall-based Poundland, but said his headteacher had low expectations for him after leaving school before finishing his A-levels. "I decided to leave St Philip's, Birmingham, at the age of 17, part way through my A-levels with the words of the headmaster ringing in my ears. 'McCarthy, you will never make anything of your life.'"

Mr McCarthy grew up in Birmingham and has also worked for businesses including Next, where he was managing director of neighbourhood retailing and the Birmingham Post and Mail, where he served as managing director of their retail estate. He took the role of chief executive at Poundland in 2006 and recently oversaw its acquisition of 250 99p Stores.

Speaking on receiving his doctorate, Mr McCarthy said: "I thank all those who selected me for this honour. To say I'm flattered and delighted would be a significant understatement, I am very grateful and immensely proud.

"Of course it is a regret that remains with me to this day, that I did not go to university.

"It seems to me that it is now more important than ever, to maximise your potential with the significant benefit of a university education."

New delays for £87m roadworks on the M6

ROADWORKS on the M6 look set to stay in place even longer after highways bosses backed off from a new completion date.

The £87 million work between Wolverhampton and Stafford should have been completed in March last year after starting in 2013.

It has led to thousands of drivers getting £100 fines in a 50mph average speed camera section. Various deadlines for the work have been and gone, with the latest estimate being the end of this month.

However, Highways England now says the road will re-open as a 'smart motorway' in 'early 2016', suggesting the January deadline may have been optimistic – again.

The work is between Junctions 10a for the M54 and 13 for Stafford south.

Monitor

The authority will not now say if the work is on track to finish this month. Road sensors have been installed underneath the highway surface to monitor the volume and speed of traffic.

These will work in tandem with overhead gantries which impose temporary speed limits when necessary to improve the flow or if there is an accident. Hard shoulders will also be used as running lanes to expand the capacity of the road.

A web page on the scheme says it will be complete in 'early 2016'. Alistair Harris, spokesman for Highways England, would only say: "We are working towards opening this section. We are making sure that all the technology required to operate the system is in place. We will be able to confirm our date once this work has been completed."

Mr Harris added that the work had not been affected by the recent poor weather.

Brian Edwards, leader of South Staffordshire Council, called the delays a 'nuisance' and 'frustrating'.

He said: "We have had roadworks for a long time already. These latest delays are disappointing, especially as they can't tell us when they will finish. It's a nuisance. It's frustrating that they're going on so long."

Figures obtained by the Freedom of Information revealed that on average more than 450 drivers a month were caught breaking the temporary speed limit.

Infants plan for grammar school

How the new multi-million pound infants school at Wolverhampton Grammar School would look

ONE of the oldest independent schools in the West Midlands has revealed plans for a new multi-million pound infants school.

Wolverhampton Grammar School (WGS), which opened in 1512, wants to build the school on land currently occupied by playing fields on its sprawling site in Compton Road.

The new school, which will have its own headteacher, will cater for pupils aged from four to seven years of age. Bosses say it could initially take 60 youngsters, across three year groups, eventually rising to 120. Class sizes will be capped at 20.

The school will create up to 20 new jobs for teachers, teaching assistance and maintenance staff.

They are set to submit plans for the development to Wolverhampton council at the end of the month.

Philip Sims, chairman of WGS, said: "Wolverhampton Grammar School has a first class reputation and supports the city in attracting aspirational families and high achieving staff to the local area.

Bosses say fees at the school will be broadly in line with other local independent schools that cater for infants.

The proposed new infant school will cater for boys and girls, offering state-of-the-art facilities. It will cost between £3-4 million.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Yes to £10.4m revamp of Civic

A £10.4 million redevelopment of Wolverhampton's Civic Halls has been given the go-ahead, paving the way for the revamp to begin.

Preparatory works have started on the Grade II listed Civic and Wulfrun ahead of Wolverhampton council appointing a main contractor.

The work is being funded by £6.2m from the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership Growth Deal and £4.2m from the council.

There will be a phased re-opening but the Civic will be open for the Grand Slam of Darts in November.

Closing date is given for Tesco

TESCO in Wolverhampton's Mander Centre will close on February 27, bosses have revealed.

The store is closing as the centre undergoes a £25 million overhaul. The lease on the Metro outlet expires next month and it will close to pave the way for Debenhams.

A statement in the shop window said: "It is with great sadness we have taken the very difficult decision to close our store on Saturday, February 27. Our management team will be available to help you with any questions you may have in the meantime."

MP's campaign on broadband speed

AN MP has launched a campaign to improve the speeds of Superfast Broadband in his constituency.

South Staffordshire's current broadband download speeds are ranked at 567 out of 650 parliamentary constituencies in the UK.

Gavin Williamson MP hopes the campaign will expand on the access to Superfast Broadband that urban areas enjoy. A copy of Gavin's petition can be downloaded from his website at www.gavinwilliamson.org

Maplin moves to a bigger city site

ELECTRONICS specialist Maplin in Wolverhampton has moved to an expanded unit and invested £230,000 in the project.

The city store moved from Dudley Street, to a larger, 4,400 sq ft location at Unit 1B, St Johns Retail Park. The new store, which opened on Saturday, has secured the retailer's commitment to the area for another 10 years, and all current staff have relocated to the new unit in addition to one new job being created.

Real brick needed

THE Tettenhall Transport Heritage Centre is looking for a kind hearted bricklayer to help with a small job.

When community workers took over the building on the old railway station off Henwood Road, the railings at the side of the steps were missing. Contact alecbrew@hotmail.co.uk

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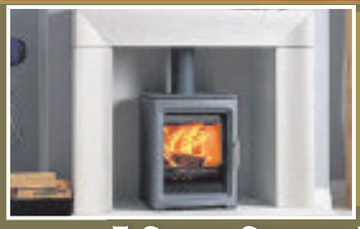

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

BACK in the days of churchgoing, assemblies, sing-songs in the pub and sea shanties around the school piano, we learned how to hold a tune in our heads. The Brits could sing. This week, in the massive media overkill that marked David Bowie's passing, some TV and radio reporters invited members of the public to sing their favourite Bowie hits. And what a dire, off-key caterwauling ensued. What a tuneless nation we have become.

A SURVEY of grass-roots Labour supporters reveals the party has grown, moved to the Left and thinks its new leader is great. I'm not sure if this tells us anything except that Jeremy Corbyn has a lot of support – among his supporters.

A READER points out that although the immensely entertaining Dickensian (BBC1) is set in the deep mid-winter with snow crunching under foot, no-one has frosted breath.

THANKS for all your items on the subject of chucking out a favourite pair of old shoes. Most were funny tales. And then suddenly this: "In 1971 I bought new black shoes to walk my wife-to-be down the aisle. Forty years later, in 2011, after much wear, repair and polishing, I wore the same shoes to walk her coffin again down the aisle. You can't put a price on all the memories a much-loved pair of shoes can hold."

A READER tells me he phoned his local radio station to be told he was the first caller of the day and thus qualified for the mystery grand prize, if he could answer one simple maths question. By chance, he has a degree in mathematics. The prize was two front-row seats at a Justin Bieber concert. The crucial question – what is two plus two? Without a moment's hesitation he replied: "Potato." I'm not sure I believe a word of it, but I never entirely dismiss the conspiracy theory that the chief purpose of local radio is to rot the nation's brains.

WHY do some doctors have such a downer on booze? One suggestion this week came from health writer Tony Edwards. He says some research suggests moderate drinkers are less likely to suffer from a wide range of diseases. But as he puts it: "The job of doctors is to help sick people rather than healthy ones, so they inevitably see the casualties of alcohol, never its beneficiaries." So most doctors will see alcoholics dying of liver disease while never meeting the moderate drinker who enjoys a glass of wine a day and, inexplicably, never catches a cold.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Bar licence revoked after assault

A BAR has had its licence revoked after CCTV footage revealed how staff did not respond to the assault of a man inside.

Malones Bar in Bilston, which had its licence suspended following the incident last November, was unable to convince council officials that the premises should keep its licence.

CCTV footage, provided by Pc Mitch Harvey of the West Midlands Police licensing department, showed a young man being punched once in the face and hitting his head on the end of the bar as he fell to the floor. The offender poured a drink over the head of the victim.

The victim then left the premises with his father, only to be accosted by the offender and his acquaintances further down the road. A further more serious assault took place and the victim's wallet and mobile phone were taken.

The manager of Malones bar, Tony Mandani, then let the offender back into the premises.

Mr Mandani said: "I did not see the assault take place, as I was at the door of the premises, letting people in and out as we had a private party that evening. Only once my brother, Mohammed Mandani told me of what happened, did I let the man in. He apologised to me and then went behind the bar to apologise to Mo.

When asked by the licensing committee why no member of staff called the emergency services after the attack, Mr Mandani said: "We were worried we would lose control."

Later, the CCTV footage revealed people apparently crushing, lining and snorting cocaine.

Trampoline teenager breaks bone in his back

Rob Cox

AN 18-year-old student broke his back in a visit to the newly-opened trampoline park AirSpace Wolverhampton, it has emerged.

The Wolverhampton Grammar School pupil had been on a 'tumble track', which bosses described as a long trampoline allowing users to perform several somersaults in a row, when the incident took place.

Tristram Mayhew, who founded parent company Go Ape, said he has viewed video footage showing the teenager performing "a couple of bounces" before attempting a backwards somersault. But he lands on his shoulders and his legs flick over his head, Mr Mayhew said.

Brace

The student, whose name is not known, then stood up and approached a member of staff stating he had pain in his legs.

He was taken into the first aid room before being taken to hospital in an ambulance. Medical staff later discovered he had broken a bone in his lower back.

Mr Mayhew said the manager at the Bentley Bridge site had been in contact with the student's family several times since the incident, which took place in the first few days of the year.

He added: "I have spoken with him and he is at home on rest. They are not going to operate but he will be wearing a back brace for a while.

"He was in a very, very, very small number of people who suffer an injury through the normal use of the trampolines."

AirSpace Wolverhampton welcomed its first visitors on December 23, creating 90 jobs.

The £1.5 million park, which is set over two floors, boasts more than over 100 interconnected trampolines.

Mr Mayhew said AirSpace takes safety very seriously and when visitors arrive they have to go through an instruction brief."

Serving up lifestyle information

Chanell Aheer, aged 10, and Tyrese Flavell, nine, show off a range of healthy food

UP to 9,000 people across Wolverhampton will be asked to take part in the city's biggest ever health and lifestyle survey being launched this week.

Researchers will be knocking on doors until the end of March, gathering information on the health and wellbeing of residents. They will be asked about issues such as diet, smoking, physical activity and alcohol consumption.

The information gathered will be used by the council's public health team to help plan services to improve the health of the local population. It will also help measure the effectiveness of services in the future.

Councillor Sandra Samuels, the authority's health leader, said: "We know that health levels among the general population in Wolverhampton are not as good as they could or should be, and as a council we are determined to do all we can to address this.

"As a council, we can only commission services which will successfully address the problem if we know what that problem is. This survey will give us that information, and I'd encourage everyone who is asked to take part in the survey to do so and share their views with the research team.

Residents aged 16 and over will be invited to take part in the Healthy Lifestyle Survey. Researchers will conduct doorstep interviews with randomly selected households across the city. All researchers will carry photo identification.

10 cars are seized in campaign on tax dodgers

POLICE in Wolverhampton have launched a crackdown on motorists flouting the law by not taxing their vehicles.

Officers in the city have seized 10 cars in the last month which have been parked on the road without having the necessary tax.

In the latest seizure, two cars parked on Bolton Road, close to Wednesfield Police Station, were seized by police for not being correctly taxed, meaning they cannot be on the road, even if they are parked.

Wednesfield police revealed that the cars were 'brazenly' parked at the back of the police station under the false impression that police would not carry out checks in the area.

Driveways

In a tweet they said "Most houses in this road do not have driveways, so owners think it's okay to keep untaxed cars on the road...it isn't."

In the past month, officers in Wednesfield, Heath Town and East Park, have seized 10 untaxed vehicles.

One car, an Audi from the Wednesfield area was being driven despite not being taxed since April 2015.

Wednesfield North Councillor Phil Bateman, said: "The issue is a simple one, we want all people who own cars to keep them safe and legal. It's for safety reasons as well as for lawful reasons.

" It is to protect the people in the cars as well as those who may come into contact with the cars."

'Shoehorn' home plan thrown out

RESIDENTS in a Wolverhampton suburb have won their fight to stop a bungalow being built between two homes.

The application to build the property in Park Avenue, Goldthorn Park, was met by a petition from residents who had argued the development would be out of character.

Now planning chiefs at Wolverhampton council have unanimously rejected the scheme.

Blakenhall councillor John Rowley said that 'people power' had won the day.

"Neighbours took the view that to shoehorn in another bungalow between properties built some 50 years ago would produce a development that would be cramped and out of character," he said.

MEPs quizzed on research funding

UNIVERSITY of Wolverhampton staff have travelled to Brussels to quiz West Midlands MEPs on research funding.

Thirteen staff spent three days in the Belgium capital as part of the university's project 'New to EU'.

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Pervert who breached court order sent to jail

A PERVERT who blackmailed a girl into sending him 'compromising' images has been jailed for 10 months.

Steven Murphy of Moorland Avenue, Oxley, had already been placed on the sex offenders register after admitting the offence. He was sentenced at Wolverhampton Crown Court for failing to comply with his community order.

Murphy, 22, had previously admitted inciting a child into sexual activity. Murphy had set up a fake Facebook account as 'Andre Johnson', aged 17 to 18, and sent a friend request to a 14-year-old girl, the court heard.

Reported

He got hold of an indecent image of the girl through a contact and then blackmailed her into sending more. The court heard Murphy was eventually stopped when she reported it to her teacher, who informed the police.

Police later found material linking him with the Andre Johnson character, which he had tried to delete from his computer.

Murphy pleaded guilty and was ordered on to a sex offenders work programme as well as being told to carry out 200 hours unpaid work. He was also made the subject of a three-year supervision order because of previous convictions. But he went on to breach those conditions and was remanded in custody after being arrested.

Mr Jasvir Mann, defending, said Murphy had failed to comply with the order after struggling to fit in his unpaid work with his new employment.

MP's praise for defibrillator aid

AN MP has praised the work two volunteers have done to raise awareness and money for public access defibrillators.

Dawn and Richard Woodward have been raising awareness in South Staffordshire for the past few years. An automated external defibrillator (AED) lifesaving equipment was installed in Featherstone in 2013 and they have also co-ordinated a second device in Shareshill.

The couple continue to raise money for further AED's and are hoping now to provide one for Hilton, Brinsford and Slade Heath by way of funding through British Heart Foundation.

Gavin Williamson, MP for South Staffordshire said: "The work they are doing is very important."

Backing for homes at former garages

FOUR new homes will be built on the site of former garages in Coseley, after plans were given the green light.

The quartet of two-bed houses on the land will be constructed between Mars Close and Priory Field.

Backlash tat-too much for model Ricki

At work removing the tattoos

SUPERSTAR model Ricki Hall faced a social media backlash after revealing that he was getting his facial tattoos removed.

He told his Twitter followers that he was getting his ink removed by a professional tattoo artist.

But a day after revealing he was getting the three tattoos by his eyes, another by his eyebrow and another by his ear removed, his Instagram followers started leaving in their droves.

He said: "I don't want them anymore. Hence why I'm removing them. Lost over 2,000 followers on Instagram last night for removing my face tattoos what a world we live in ay."

But fans of the 28-year-old, who was romantically linked with wild Brummie rocker Ozzy Osbourne's daughter Kelly last year, got behind him with some supportive comments.

Luke Hood tweeted: "That's actually amazing. I fear for the human race." While Jamie Parry joked: "Guess you've lost your cool now!"

The 2,000 followers shouldn't be a huge miss to Hall, whose Instagram account sits at a whopping 372,000 after his meteoric rise to prominence in the modelling world.The sought after star also has 60,500 followers on Twitter.

In December, he and city businessman Lord Swraj Paul were named as the latest well-known city figures to be in the Wolverhampton Famous Sons and Daughters.

Before hitting the big time in the modelling world, Ricki used to work as a mechanic..

His haircut and beard combo are seen by many as most influential around with men everywhere asking for 'A Ricki'.

Up, up and a-Way for city's £6m youth zone

"IT feels like the culmination of years of hard work for me and the start of something wonderful and new for this great city."

As crowds gathered to mark its opening. Wolves chairman Steve Morgan spoke passionately of his belief that Wolverhampton's £6 million Youth Zone will be a huge success.

Around 200 people packed in to The Way, Wolverhampton's first Youth Zone facility, for a grand opening event on Saturday.

Youngsters and parents were given the first glimpse inside the one-stop all-inclusive activity centre, featuring a 4G football pitch, boxing ring, dance studio, gym, sports hall and much more at the event, which also featured a performance from Black Country singer Sasha Simone, who made it to the final of The Voice last year.

Speaking after the opening ceremony, which was marked by a balloon drop and live music, Steve Morgan, who oversaw the project from the start, said: "It just feels wonderful to have it finally open, this is the culmination of a hell of a lot of work and it is everything I wanted it to be.

Tough

"When I started this journey more than two years ago, I knew it would be tough, but this is worth it all. It is a proud, proud moment for me."

Several organisations have thrown their weight behind the centre including Wolverhampton Homes which pledged to invest £75,000 over the next three years.

The city council is also investing more than £3m in The Way towards both the development and running costs of the project.

However, all in attendance were in agreement that it was the 50-plus young volunteers who have helped shape the style and spirit of the facility that deserved the most praise.

Emma Curran, 16, from Finchfield and a member of the Youth Zone development board, said: ""It feels like we have arrived in Wolverhampton now, we are really here."

Young people between the ages of eight and 19, or up to 25 with a disability, are now able to sign up and become fully-fledged members of The Way. Aside from sports and recreation, the site also offers help with job searches, counselling and cooking.

The City of Wolverhampton College, Marston's and Carvers were also named founder patrons. It has also been supported by One Direction superstar Liam Payne, who comes from Wolverhampton. The singer made a surprise appearance last year.

Excited youngsters and guests at the official opening of The Way Youth Zone

A proud moment for Steve Morgan

Liam Payne's parents, Geoff and Karen attended

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bringing touch of Med to wards

TWENTY nurses who have been recruited from the Mediterranean have started work at the trust that runs Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital.

Nurses from Portugal, Italy, Spain and Greece have started six-week induction and orientation programmes.

They have been employed in a variety of roles and represent the fifth group of EU nurses to be employed by the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust in the last 15 months. In addition, 29 newly-registered British graduate nurses will also be joining the trust.

LGBT opens shop next to offices

A CHARITY shop dedicated to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community has opened in Wolverhampton.

The shop is open in School Street, alongside offices to provide counselling and support to members. Profits will be used to provide support services.

Karen Thorne, treasurer of LGBT Wolverhampton, said that opening the shop was necessary to fund crucial support, and insists discrimination and bullying towards the community is still happening.

Residents' chance to get fit for free

PEOPLE can get fit for free with a number of activities held in parks and green spaces in Wolverhampton.

Residents can enjoy outdoor gyms, Walking for Health groups, park runs and 'toddle waddles'.

Walking for Health in Wolverhampton offers more than 40 regular walks, especially suited for people who don't do much walking. Call 0800 073 4242.

Runners can join the 5km run at West Park every Saturday. Go to www.parkrun.org.uk/wolverhampton

Talks are getting down to business

MEMBERS of the Black Country Chamber of Commerce can take advantage of a new series of information sessions.

They will be delivered by chamber members. The sessions will be held throughout the year and will have a different topic area each time.

For more information or to book a place visit http://blackcountrychamber.co.uk/bcc-events, call the events team on 01902 912 305 or email events@blackcountrychamber.co.uk

Dementia support

A FREE event to support people in the community affected by dementia was due to be held today at a Wolverhampton care home.

Highcroft Hall Residential Care Home in Old Fallings Lane, Bushbury, will be holding the monthly support group between 2-4pm.

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IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

Why less is more for the filmgoers

QUENTIN Tarantino's new movie, The Hateful Eight, seems to be the film of choice for those in the know at the moment. The western, set in the aftermath of the American Civil war, lasts a bum-numbing three hours seven minutes.

It follows hot on the heels of Spectre, the longest Bond movie ever, at two hours 40 minutes. And of course, a few years ago there was War Horse, another acclaimed movie that was also the best part of three hours.

Whatever happened to the 90-minute film? It wouldn't be so bad, but you now have to sit through half an hour of trailers, non-smoking warnings, and threats of what will happen if you film the movie on your phone before you even begin. As if you could film a three-hour film on your mobile.

Besides, too many films these days seem to be filled with padding just to make them last longer.

Take Captain Phillips, for example, the film about the captain of a ship hi-jacked by pirates. The first 15 minutes was about his drive to work and fears for his son's future. Or the Kingsman, where half an hour was spent messing about with a light aircraft. Just get on with it.

Look, I'm not pining for the days of a B-movie to act as the warm-up, an interval in the middle to change spools, and a spot of Pathe news to keep us abreast of what is going on in the world. But I do think that an hour-and-a-half is long enough for any story, and if a film runs for as long as an ice-hockey match, then it should be edited more tightly.

■■■

I TRUST that you are now sleeping more soundly at night, after our lawmakers spent two hours debating why they did not want to ban Donald Trump from entering the UK.

The debate, if you can call it that, given that nobody apart from Alex Salmond was in favour of a Trump ban, was triggered because 500,000 of the professional malcontents who spend most of their lives moaning on Twitter and Facebook had signed a petition. Do these people never take a day off?

There is the small matter of the fact that the talking Shredded Wheat has never indicated any plans to visit the UK – he would probably struggle to find it on a map - but, hey, let's not that get in the way of a spot of student-union grandstanding. But next time, maybe the Twitterati might turn their attention to something that actually affects us?

■■■

ACCORDING to the latest healthy eating guidelines from the Department of Health, we are now expected to restrict ourselves to 30g of sugar a day, the equivalent of nine sugar lumps.

EXCEPT Chris Huhne, of course. He's letting the missus have his points.

Thin White Duke — Bowie on stage at Stafford in 1978

Tin Machine saw Bowie fronting a hard rock band at the Civic Hall

Bowie at the NEC, he brought several tours to the mega-venue

Starman memories left by icon Bowie

David Bowie influenced more than one generation via his music, fashion, art and ideas PETER MADELEY reports

IF it hadn't been for David Bowie, most of the rock stars, broadcasters and writers who made it out of the West Midlands would never have got started.

There would have been no Birmingham-based Duran Duran and no Black Country combo Pop Will Eat Itself.

Alternative music and new wave would have had as much chance of making it into the mainstream as avant garde jazz. The star who implored 'Let's Dance' was the starting point for three generations of artists.

His untimely death at the age of 69 robs us of one of music's greatest icons, a true innovator who ranks alongside The Beatles and Elvis ass being one of the most influential artists of all time.

Influence

Pop Will Eat Itself founder Clint Mansell, for instance, is presently one of Hollywood's most influential soundtrack writers.

But without Bowie, he'd never have started. He counts Bowie as the main influence on his musical career.

Clint, from Stourbridge, believes there have been 12 key moments in his life.

The first was his birth in 1963. The next significant episode was in 1972 when he saw David Bowie perform 'Starman' on Top of the Pops. The experience changed his life.

Clint's third key moment came that year when he bought his first album 'The Rise & Fall of Ziggy Stardust'. After that, he was only ever going to be a rock'n'roll star.

Jonn Penney, whose band Ned's Atomic Dustbin, followed Pop Will Eat Itself and The Wonder Stuff into the charts and onto the stages of the nation's biggest festivals, has a similar debt of gratitude to Bowie.

Jonn, from Wolverhampton, said: "To be honest, I kinda feel unqualified to comment on Bowie," he said. "He's so iconic. He's such a genius. What can I say about him? I guess the thing about Bowie is what he stood for; whether that was intended or not. He was utterly unique.

"He made it okay for people to plough their own furrow, rather than follow the herd. He sort of ratified that, he justified it too. But beyond that, he showed everyone that the best music they can make is the most honest music."

Slade drummer Don Powell, who grew up in Bilston, said he was fortunate enough to meet The Thin White Duke at a gig at Wolverhampton's Civic Hall in the early 1970s.

"I managed to get backstage and explained to him that the first record I ever bought was Space Oddity (Bowie's album from 1969).

"I was shocked because for someone so famous he was very unassuming and quiet, almost to the point of being shy. It is all very sad. We've only just lost Lemmy and now Bowie. Two of the greats gone in the blink of an eye."

West Midlands music producer Pete Waterman said: "Bowie was as important to pop music as The Beatles. He was extraordinarily talented. The Let's Dance album to me is one of the greatest pop albums of all time, every bit as good as Sgt Pepper."

Mr Waterman, a veteran of 26 Bowie live concerts, added; "He was a showman who was able to wrap a simple pop song up into something completely different.

"He was just amazing. I only met him twice and found him incredibly quiet."

Wolverhampton author Caitlin Moran broke down in tears during a Bowie track on BBC Radio Two's Jeremy Vine show.

She said: "This is such a sad day. It feels like someone's taken the core out of the Earth."

"As a child of my generation he seemed to be everywhere."

Bowie played numerous iconic gigs around the Black Country, Birmingham and Staffordshire, including three nights at Stafford's Bingley Hall in June 1978.

Some recall him appearing at venues in Birmingham and Wolverhampton in the 1960s before he found fame, and support slots for Marc Bolan's band T Rex and Humble Pie, the group fronted by former Small Faces singer Steve Marriott.

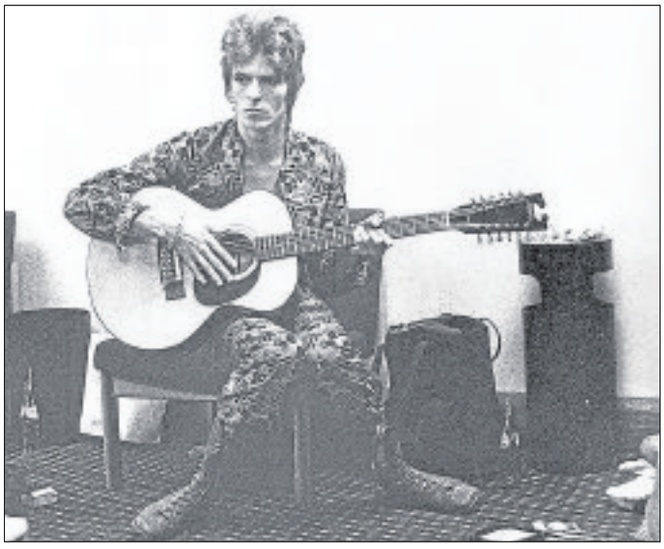
He graced the stage at Wolverhampton's Civic Hall, firstly in 1973 on the Ziggy Stardust tour and later with his hard rock band Tin Machine in 1991.

He also performed at Birmingham Town Hall in 1970s and at the NEC during the 1980s and 90s.

Reality

In 1997 he was a surprise addition to the bill at the Phoenix Festival held at Long Marston Airfield near Stratford-upon-Avon and played a low-key gig at Birmingham city centre's Que Club.

He appeared finally in the Midlands as part of his A Reality Tour in 2003. That tour was cut short when Bowie had a heart attack, which began his withdrawal from concert performances. The singer's death was announced last Monday, just two days after the release of his 25th album Blackstar, when it was revealed that he had been battling cancer for 18 months.



Ziggy played guitar — Bowie in a reflective moment backstage at Birmingham Town Hall

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Snow heroes sought for icy roads in city

Joining forces – and voices

Singing spectacular – thousands of youngsters in fine voice at the concert at the Genting Arena, Birmingham

IT'S been a singing spectacular as thousands of schoolchildren joined forces, and voices, to put on a huge concert for family and friends in the West Midlands.

Pupils from across the Black Country and Staffordshire were among the 30,000 youngsters who took to the stage as part of the 20th anniversary Young Voices tour.

Each night a 6,000-strong choir performed at Birmingham's NEC, led by the internationally-acclaimed conductor David Lawrence, in front of more than 10,000 people.

This year's tour has seen 120,000 youngsters perform at venues up and down the country alongside star acts such as soprano Laura Wright, who performed at the opening ceremony of the Rugby World Cup.

Also Tom Billington, the singer-songwriter from Mohair, and the Beatbox Collective. Children were treated to an extra special guest during rehearsals when Barney Harwood from Blue Peter used the evening to practise conducting the choir.

He also promised to give every member of the choir a Blue Peter Badge for their troubles.

HUNDREDS of volunteers are being sought to help clear snow from Wolverhampton's roads as weather experts warn of a fall in temperatures.

The city council has launched an appeal for 1,000 people to come forward to act as 'snow wolves' in vulnerable neighbourhoods.

Each volunteer will be given a snow shovel, two 3kg shaker tubs of rock salt and a high-visibility vest as part of the scheme in return for a commitment to help out. The call comes as the recent mild weather comes to an end with temperatures set to plummet.

Council bosses want to recruit 'an army' of volunteers to clear local pavements and the doorsteps of elderly and disabled neighbours.

Priority

The scheme has been created to complement the council's winter service arrangements which will continue as usual.

Councillor Steve Evans, cabinet member for city environment, described the volunteers as 'community heroes.'

He said: "In the event of heavy snow and ice, the council's priority has to be gritting the highway network and snow clearance to keep the roads moving and ensuring the city doesn't grind to a halt.

"This is vital work and means that we can't always get out to treat non-priority pavements and the driveways of vulnerable residents as quickly as people want.

"That's where Snow Wolves come in. We want an army of community-minded volunteers who know their local areas and will be able to clear snow and ice from pavements and properties of neighbours in need.

"Similar schemes operate in other parts of the country – including Sandwell and Walsall – and are extremely popular."

Applicants should be physically fit and aged over 18. Sign up to join via www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/snowwolves

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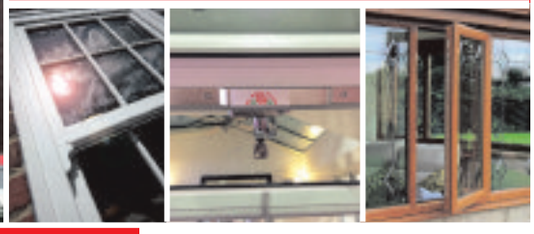

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ON behalf of the Rotary Club of Sedgley & Wombourne, we would like to thank everyone in the Sedgley and Wombourne areas who contributed so generously to our annual house-to-house collections during December 2015.

Also the patrons of Sainsbury's Wombourne, Ashwood Garden Centre and the Co-op in Sedgley. We are delighted to be able to report that we raised a magnificent total of just over £5,000.

This achievement means we can continue our important work of supporting many local charities and donating £500 to the floods appeal.

A break-down of the total collected shows that £816.82 was donated in our house-to-house collections in Sedgley, £1093.64 in Wombourne with a further £3290.89 at our static collections at Ashwoods Garden Centre, Sedgley Co-op and Sainsbury's of Wombourne.

TERRY WOOD
President Elect

Need for new Wolves poll

NOT long ago, when Wolves were going through a bad patch, there was a poll on whether the manager should go.

The outcome of that poll was that more than 50 per cent of the Wolves supporters said yes.

Since then the club has won four games on the trot, two of those away from home, and put in a very spirited display at West Ham in the FA Cup.

On the strength of that could I ask for the poll to be run again asking the same question?

Somehow I think that this time we might get a very different answer.

J PIKE
Wombourne

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Wolverhampton Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

E-MAIL
wolverhampton.chronicles@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Sacked for speaking his mind

I HAVE been a Labour Party member for more than 35 years and I write regarding the sacking of Pat McFadden from the Labour Party's front bench.

I believe he was told by Jeremy Corbyn he was being sacked because he did not like what Pat said in Parliament about the West's actions on terror not being responsible for the terrorist attacks on Paris and the terrorists are to be held accountable for their own actions.

A view I believe held by a vast majority of UK's citizens, at no time did he run down Corbyn in his contribution in the debate; or I believe at any other time. Mr Corbyn believes the opposite, that the West brings these attacks upon themselves.

Pat McFaddon got sacked for speaking his mind and having a different view than his leader, something as a full-time official of the UK's largest union (Unite) for over 30 years until my retirement I used to do on a regular basis.

T PYE
Wolverhampton

Sort out the potholes first

DRIVING to work in Wolverhampton is like riding a rollercoaster – potholes everywhere. It does not do a lot for my wellbeing and is even worse for my poor little car.

Recently I had to have the tyres replaced and the wheels rebalanced and the reason given by the garage manager was – potholes. They ruin the tracking on your car so that your tyres wear more on one side.

Maybe Wolverhampton council would like to pay for my new tyres or maybe the suspension problems. They obviously have a lot of money to spend on the roads as the shortish run along Tinacre Hill, Wightwick has now acquired, not one or two but 12 sets of speed bumps and is a 20mph zone.

Yes I can understand about the ramps near the school but round the corner there are just houses on one side and fields on the other?

Maybe the value of the house has something to do with it or am I being cynical? Surely that money would be better spent in the city centre where there are more cars and certainly a lot more pedestrians.

NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED

Not answer to bully doctors

HEALTH Secretary Jeremy Hunt says the strike action by junior doctors is unnecessary. He's quite right.

If the employers' side had entered into meaningful negotiations with the BMA it wouldn't have happened.

Trying to bully junior doctors into the new working conditions didn't seem a particularly clever move on the employers' side.

From statements from junior doctors the new contract hardly seems 'fair' to both sides. As an example we are told that any health trust/authority transgressing will be 'fined'. But they'll be paying the 'fine' to themselves. Wow that's really good. Get fined but keep the money! Can't really see that idea catching on in law courts.

Perhaps the management side ought to look again at what they can do to modify their 'requirements' from our junior doctors. Then we may see real progress in negotiations and not the impasse we have presently.

M GOUGH
Wombourne

Those in 'leave EU' party being effectively gagged by Cameron

I SEE that once again the 'remain campaign' is being allowed to put forward its propaganda whilst the 'leave' party has been effectively gagged by Mr Cameron.

Nicky Morgan's comment on our young people being left in the wilderness if we leave the EU is nonsensical! It's because of the EU and migrant labour that we have at least two generations and possibly more of our youngsters without training or proper jobs.

As with the great majority of arguments put forward by the 'remain' party this one and the others simply do not stand up to even the mildest scrutiny.

If we leave, the UK will not fall into a black hole, but we will once more regain our sovereignty and not be ruled by unelected politicians in Brussels.

As the EU's biggest customer, (for the last 11 years we have run a large trade deficit with the EU) we will still trade with them simply because the EU economies are in such a bad state at the moment, mainly due to the millstone of the euro currency around their necks, that they cannot afford to lose their biggest customer.

With regard to David Cameron's re-negotiations I fear an underhand deal has already been done, (apparently a comment by Mr Junkers has let the cat out of the bag) but with George Osborne and Peter Mandelson involved in these negotiations I shudder to think what the outcome of any deal will be.

Even if it turns out to be a favourable one for the UK there is nothing to say that it cannot be subsequently changed or even removed within the terms of the next planned EU treaty, which incidentally is being postponed until after the UK referendum. Once again I must stress that if you are uncertain as to which way to vote please do your own research.

A SMITH
Wolverhampton

So it it just about pay?

ON television news a number of junior doctors , and a multitude of pickets' signs, informed us that long working hours caused mistakes and danger to patients.

The strike was not really about pay, they said. I accept long hours could probably cause doctors to make mistakes and therefore supported their argument.

Then a young doctor complained that she would still be required to work lates and weekend hours away from her husband and children but now without overtime pay.

So it would seem it is alright to work long hours; endangering patients; provided she is remunerated?

T HOWARD
Wolverhampton

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Students to help with law advice

PEOPLE after legal information and support can benefit from a service by students from the University of Wolverhampton.

Students from the Faculty of Social Sciences are staffing an information desk at Wolverhampton Combined Court Centre in Pipers Row.

They will be manning the desk from Monday to Friday between 9.30-11.30am and 1.30-3.30pm.

Tony Shannon-Little, principal lecturer for employability at the Faculty of Social Sciences, said: "Following a successful pilot programme run last summer, we have recruited students across law, criminology, sociology and social policy to volunteer their help at an information desk at the Court through Wolverhampton Legal Companions .

"The WLC project enables students to build on legal skills."

People interested in using the services of the students can register for support online at https://clock.uk.net

£500k work starts for coach stop

WORK has started on the construction of a new £500,000 coach stop in Wolverhampton city centre as part of the multi-million Interchange plans.

The new Wolverhampton Coach Link is being created in Bilston Street and will make use of the now redundant side of St George's Metro stop.

Council bosses hope the new stop will bring an end to months of traffic misery in nearby Pipers Row, where a new stop for the planned extension of the Metro is planned outside the bus station.

Drivers have faced congestion outside the station where buses and coaches have been blocking the road during the morning and evening rush hours as they set down and pick up passengers.

The coach stop is due to be completed by April. While work takes place, a road closure is in force on Bilston Street.

Deputy council leader, Councillor Peter Bilson, said: "The start of work on the coach link further strengthens the progress that is being made on the Interchange project.

"Phase one saw a new bus station. Phase two has seen i10 open its doors and the demolition of the former Steam Mill. Work will soon begin on redeveloping the railway station car park."

Acid spill 'no harm to wildlife'

A CORROSIVE acid spillage at a factory in Willenhall caused no visible harm to wildlife, according to the Environment Agency.

A 35 tonne tank holding hydrochloric acid collapsed at Edward Howells Galvanizers leaking 35,000 litres at the site. Some acid found its way into the factory's drainage network which then feeds into a brook.

A clean-up operation was launched by West Midlands Fire Service, Severn Trent Water and the Environment Agency, which included work to stem the leak.

Water samples recently taken from the brook show PH levels were 'very close to normal'.

However, the true effects the spillage has had on wildlife will not be truly known until further tests to be carried out.

Environment Agency spokesman Hannah Annison-French said: "We have not, as of yet ,seen any signs that there has been an impact to wildlife."

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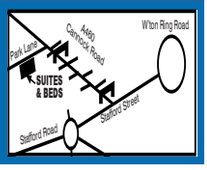

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Gym visit benefits fraud man walks free

A BENEFITS cheat man filmed in gym workouts while claiming nearly £20,000 in disability allowance has been given an eight-month jail sentence suspended for 18 months.

By Amardeep Bassey

Paramjit Randhawa had told the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) that he could barely walk 10 metres and had severe mobility problems, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

But a tip-off led undercover investigators to a Wolverhampton Council-run gym in Bentley Bridge in the summer of 2013 where Randhawa was filmed striding on a treadmill for 50 minutes and lifting weights.

The grandfather, from Honor Avenue, Wolverhampton, had become eligible for a disability allowance for life after being diagnosed with asthma brought on by working in factories and foundries in 1995.

But he failed to notify DWP officials of an improvement in his condition after having a pacemaker fitted in March 2010 and continued to draw benefits.

Sentencing Randhawa on his 72nd birthday Judge John Wait said: "After you had a pacemaker fitted you soon became a very fit man for your age and in 2013 you were seen to be walking continuously on a treadmill in a gym for nearly 60 minutes at a good pace along with leg raises and squat thrusts.

"You are no doubt a very fit man but also a very dishonest man and you lied to the DWP."

Judge Wait jailed Randhawa for eight months suspended for failing to notify the DWP about his change in circumstances and wrongfully claiming £19,782 between 2011 and 2013. He also has an electronic tag enforced curfew between 7pm and 6am.

Tarlochan Dubb, defending, said his client was the sole carer for his wife and had been paying back the money.

Megan puts her Faith in The Voice's Paloma

Megan Reece made it through to the next round of the BBC singing competition The Voice

A MOTHER-OF-FOUR from Wolverhampton will team up with The Voice judge Paloma Faith after making it through to the next round of the BBC singing competition.

Megan Reece impressed the singer known for her retro style with her version of Lianne La Havas' What You Don't Do on the show.

Two judges hit their buzzers but the 28-year-old chose to work with Paloma instead of Boy George.

Megan revealed that before her blind audition she had hoped to work with either Paloma or Will.I.Am.

"I always said I would pick one of those two, if given the chance," she said.Megan has lived in Wolverhampton all her life and discovered her passion for singing while she was a student at Heath Park High School.

She has four sons - Xavier, 12, Jami, seven, Finley, six, and Taylor, four.

She told the judges: "I've got four children so for the last few years I've been busy with that. I've been gigging for the last few years. "And I'm an artist as well, so that's my day job."

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Ofsted slammed over downgrading of school

A HEADTEACHER at a city primary school has slammed Ofsted for setting 'unrealistic expectations' after the watchdog downgraded the school in its latest inspection.

Woodfield Infant School in Woodfield Avenue, Penn, Wolverhampton, was told it requires improvement following an inspection in December.

But executive headteacher Shelpa Patel has branded the judgement 'deeply unjust' and accused Ofsted of attempting 'to meet external political agendas'.

A report on the inspection said senior leaders and governors had 'taken their eye off the quality of teaching and learning in the school'. It was the school's first inspection since its infant and junior schools joined up to form a federation in June 2014.

Routines

The report said that some routines for checking pupils' progress had 'slipped', and that high standards seen at the school 'over several years' had dropped in 2015.

"Standards are now rising again," the report added, "but there is still more to do to get academic standards in mathematics back to where they once were."

The report noted a number of strengths, including strong leadership, good early years provision, effective teaching in Year One and 'exemplary' pupil conduct.

The school was given an overall grade three rating of 'requires improvement'. It had been rated as 'good' in its previous inspection.

Executive headteacher Shelpa Patel said the judgement was a shock. She criticised Ofsted's inspection framework, saying it had "once again increased pressures on schools to perform to more rigorous and unrealistic expectations in order to meet external political agendas."

Ofsted spokeswoman Kim Tran said: "Our inspection findings and judgements are based on sound evidence."

Designs on US success

Richard Campbell from Wolverhampton pictured with some of his designs being used by New Era Caps

A CLOTHING designer from Wolverhampton who has been endorsed by the likes of Pharrell Williams and Tinie Tempah is looking forward to business booming after registering his own company in the US.

Richard Campbell, aka MR.CAM, graduated from the University of Wolverhampton in 2011 with a degree in Illustration. Completing his Masters in Communication at the University of Birmingham in 2012, he became self-employed in December 2014, initially launching his designs in the UK.

Now the 27-year-old has became a registered company in the US, under the name MR.CAM Ltd, and seen his T-shirt designs grace the backs of an array of international celebrities including NBA star Danny Green, actor Franie Muniz and Friends star Matt LeBlanc.

His work has also been included in the gifting suites for the 2015 Oscars, MTV awards and the Emmys.

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Wheely smooth way to whip up healthy drink

STUDENTS have been whipping up a delight with a smoothie-making bike on their campus.

The exercise bike, fitted with special blenders that whip up fruit smoothies as the rider pedals, has been at City of Wolverhampton College's Paget Road campus and the Wellington Road site.

It proved to be the star attraction for students, who were also able to tuck-in to free fruit snacks and pick up advice from a range of organisations including Healthy Minds, Balls to Cancer, Better Off in Wolverhampton, Aspiring Futures and the Terrence Higgins Trust.

The quirky bike was supplied by Sport 4 Life's Smoothie Bike Hire, and events instructor Alex Williams was pleased with the response at the college.

"We have had a lot of interest from students. It is to get students thinking healthily, in terms of their diet and taking part in exercise," said Mr Williams.

"We go to schools and colleges up and down the country for different events and we take the smoothie-making bike along with us.

"We let students pick which fruits they want and, at high-intensity, it takes about 20 seconds at the most for the smoothie to be made."

Andrea Dill-Russell, director of student services at the college, insists it was not just the students who gave it a try.

She said: "It has gone down really well with the students. You have to peddle as hard as you can, and some of the staff had a go too.

"The health and wellbeing of our students is very important to us as it can impact on their attendance."

Jack Daniels pedals his way to a healthy smoothie aided by events instructor Alex Williams

Keep elderly safe in the cold – plea

PEOPLE are being urged to look out for the elderly and vulnerable this winter during chilly conditions.

The elderly and those with long-term health conditions are particularly susceptible at this time of year to illnesses and are often isolated.

The Met Office has issued a cold weather alert for the West Midlands and Wolverhampton councillor Sandra Samuels, cabinet member for public health and wellbeing, said: "Anyone can help elderly friends or relatives by checking on them regularly.

"This is particularly important during severe weather, ensuring their home is warm and they have everything they need to manage during the cold spell.

"Picking up shopping or medicines for them during bad weather can make all the difference and could prevent vulnerable people from having to leave the house themselves and risk a fall."

She added: "It's really important that we all do our bit to ensure older people stay well this winter, so I'd encourage everyone to always keep an eye out for vulnerable people, particularly during the colder months."

£270k owed in parking fines at end of year

ALMOST £270,000 was owed in parking fines to Wolverhampton City Council at the end of last year. This figure comes just two months after it was revealed that £2m in fines have been dished out over the last three years.

Figures obtained from a freedom of information request show that £268,164 was owed to the council and still in the process of recovery in November last year.

From 2013-14, 24,090 fines were issued, while 22,639 were handed out from 2014-15.

Between January and November last year, 13,813 fines were issued to illegal parkers.

Of these, 70 per cent of the off-street fines have been collected, and 67 per cent of the on-street ones have been paid.

Fines can vary from £50 for low level offences, and £70 for more serious breaches.

Expiry

Offences which comes under the less serious bracket include parking after the expiry of time paid for, not clearly displaying a valid pay and display ticket and not parking correctly within the markings of a place or bay.

Heftier fines are incurred for parking in a designated disabled bay without displaying a valid badge, parking or unloading/loading on a restricted street where a loading ban is in force and parking on a taxi rank.

The longer fines are left, the larger they get, and drivers can be taken to court over unpaid tickets.

Wolverhampton City Council claims its record for fine collection is better than a lot of comparable areas.

A spokesman said: "Our performance in collecting fines from illegal parking is better than many other towns and cities.

Seventy per cent of the parking fines issued in Wolverhampton get paid. Nowhere will ever collect 100 per cent because some owners are untraceable, some vehicles are registered abroad and some fines are successfully challenged.

There is always a lag time between a parking fine being issued and payment being received.

People pay at different stages in the process and obviously timescales are affected by people challenging their fine or in the case of a non-payment proceeding to court it can delay things by up to two years. If a fine has been correctly issued we will pursue it until it is paid no matter how long it takes."

The council has 47 pay and display machines in the city for off-street parking, and 29 for on-street.

Updates for carers on effect of reform

CARERS can find out how industry reforms, described as the biggest in 60 years, affect them at information sessions.

The City of Wolverhampton Council's Carer Support Team is organising workshops detailing the impact that the Care Act may have on people who look after a friend or relative.

The workshops will focus on the council's duties to carers under the Care Act, particularly around assessments and advocacy, and determining eligibility for support and how that support may be provided.

Sessions are at The Bob Jones Community Hub, Bromley Street, Blakenhall, on January 26; Wednesfield Community Hub, Well Lane, on Monday, February 1 and Tettenhall Institute, Wood Road, Tettenhall Wood, on February 3.

Each session runs from 10.30am-12.30pm and places are limited. To reserve call 01902 553409 or email carer.support@wolverhampton.gov.uk

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Taylor leads the linesman onto the pitch for the 74 World Cup Final in Munich

Trying to keep control over German and Dutch players

Taylor awards a penalty to Holland in the first minute of the World Cup Final

Jack Taylor in action

Jack Taylor in later years

Taylor-made to be a success

MEMORY LANE

By Nick Humphreys

WORLD Cup Final referee Jack Taylor has become the latest Wolverhampton legend to be immortalised with his own biography.

The late Mr Taylor took charge of the 1974 final between West Germany and Holland and is among 222 people making their debut in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (ODNB).

He joins fellow famous Wulfrunians including Wolves and England defender Billy Wright, Wolves' most successful manager Stan Cullis and late Wolverhampton MP Enoch Powell in the list.

"It is a wonderful tribute," his widow Sue said. "I'm delighted that he is still remembered. He would be so honoured. Jack was a very modest man.

"He had such phenomenal success yet it never went to his head. He thoroughly enjoyed what he did, and he knew he did it well."

Mr Taylor's entry in the ODNB opens by saying that he left school at 14 after failing his 11 plus.

"Living above his father's butcher's shop, it was probably assumed that he would go into the business, although as a young man he was keen on horses with thoughts of becoming a trader," the biography continues.

"In the event, he did work in the shop, but it was football at the weekends that became a central life interest."

The progress of Mr Taylor was 'extraordinary' according to the ODNB. He was only 31 years of age when he refereed the FA Amateur Cup final between Crook Town and Hounslow Town in 1962.

In 1966, he refereed the FA Cup final between Everton and Sheffield Wednesday at Wembley, and then took charge of the 1971 European Cup final, between Ajax and Panathinaikos.

Three years later he was the man in the middle for the World Cup Final, awarding two penalties.

He received the OBE for services to football in 1975. Not bad for the lad from Staveley Road.

Once when Mr Taylor refereed a match at Luton Town, his face was cut when a fan threw a penny at him.

Legend has it that after the match, comedian and Luton fan Eric Morecambe went to see him to make sure that he was alright, and also to check that he wasn't going to report Luton for the incident.

When Mr Taylor confirmed that he wouldn't be reporting the matter, Morecambe replied: "Good, now can I have my penny back?"

Mr Taylor later became commercial director at Wolves and was also a Wolverhampton magistrate for 25 years. He was inducted into the FIFA Hall of Fame in 1999 and in 2013 became the first referee inducted into the English Football Hall of Fame.

He was 82 when he died of pneumonia at his home at Shifnal in July 2012.

Former referee Alex Hamil met Mr Taylor in the late 1950s when he was a young up and coming referee in the Wolverhampton leagues.

"Jack was already a football league referee by then," said Mr Hamil, 80, from from Ettingshall Park. "He took me under his wing and was always there to offer help and support.

"Jack didn't have an enemy in the world. He was loved and respected wherever he went. He produced some wonderful pieces of refereeing. But even when he was at the very top he never forgot his roots. He was a proud Wolverhampton man."

Mr Hamil recalls an incident during a Football League Referees Alliance meeting that he says sums up his old friend. "One of the national newspapers wanted to run a contest to vote on the best referee in the country," he said.

"Jack stood up and said he was completely against it, arguing that we shouldn't start picking out referees as we were all in it together.

"Everyone was shocked because we all knew there would only have been one winner....Jack!

"He didn't care about the personal accolades. That was his nature."

Wolves club historian John Hendley said Mr Taylor's latest honour was richly deserved.

"He was always renowned by the players as one of the best in the game," Mr Hartley said.

"If the players think you are the best then you must be pretty good, and it came from the best players in the world.

"In the World Cup Final that he refereed, he showed no fear in awarding the penalty in the first minute or booking the German captain. Both penalties he awarded were the right decisions.

"He also booked Johann Cruyff in that game. Cruyff didn't know that a Dutch linesman had taught Jack some Dutch swear words, so when Cruyff was swearing at him he knew exactly what he was saying.

"He was a very quiet man, a decent man.

"Jack was respected by everyone in Wolverhampton and this award is fully deserved.

"He was in it for the love of the game, not the money. He loved the game and loved it to be played properly."

He added: "At Molineux, the referee's room is named the Jack Taylor Room. It gives visiting referees something to aspire to.

"If they could become half as good as Jack was, they wouldn't be a bad referee."

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City gallery plays host to New Art exhibition

FROM a glacial lake in Iceland to an abstract self-portrait, a wide range of art will be on display at exhibitions in the West Midlands in the coming months.

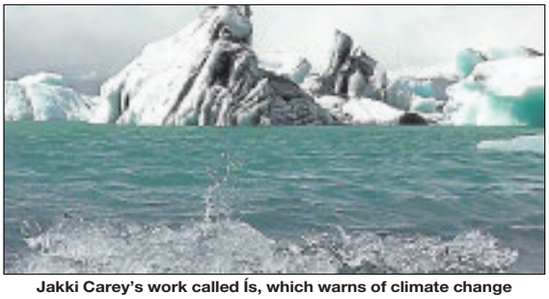
The four New Art West Midlands exhibitions will open in stages through spring 2016, beginning on February 12 at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, followed by Wolverhampton Art Gallery later in the year.

Visitors can expect a mixture of painting, photography, sculpture, video and installation.

The artists selected to be part of New Art West Midlands 2016 were chosen by a panel of leading figures in the art world, including artist and academic Sonia Boyce, artist John Stezaker and Katharine Stout, Head of Programme at ICA, London.

Self-portrait by Rosa Denby

Artwork by Nicola Onions



Jakki Carey's work called Ís, which warns of climate change

Exciting

Mac Birmingham will be joining Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Wolverhampton Art Gallery and the Herbert Gallery & Museum, Coventry, in hosting the exhibitions.

Wendy Law, director of Turning Point West Midlands, said: "It is exciting to see just how much New Art West Midlands has grown over the last four years and to be working again with our partners.

"There is a diverse range of talent and work coming out of our art schools and universities in the West Midlands.

"New Art West Midlands provides an important opportunity at a crucial point in the careers of these artists, enabling them to have their work displayed in highly respected galleries and to be seen and enjoyed by a wide public."

The annual exhibitions are designed to give upcoming artists a career boost and showcase their work. Five artists will win a cash prize of £1,000.

Among the highlights is Jakki Carey's piece called Ís, showing a glacial lake in Iceland which she says offers a direct warning from nature about climate change. And by manipulating oil paint, scratching and removing it from the surface of the canvas, Rosa Denby has created a series of self-portraits reminiscent of Pauline Boty's Pop Art paintings that express feelings of multiple anxieties.

Birmingham City University graduate Matt Parker's audio-visual installation, The Imitation Archive, will be exhibited across all four venues.

New Art West Midlands 2015 is supported with funding from the National Lottery by Arts Council England.

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FENSA

£7,000 charity boost in memory of cyclist Geoff

FRIENDS of a Wolverhampton man who was killed when he was knocked off his cycle on his way home from work have raised nearly £7,000 for the Midlands Air Ambulance who tried to save his life.

Geoff Lutner, a keen cyclist, who was brought up in Windsor Gardens, was killed 10 years ago at the age of 45 in a collision which threw him off his bicycle. He was airlifted by Midlands Air Ambulance to Selly Oak Trauma Unit but unfortunately did not survive.

To commemorate the 10-year anniversary of Mr Lutner's death, his friends and colleagues from Moog joined together last July to cycle one of Geoff's old routes.

Starting at 9am, the group completed a 41.3 mile long off-road loop, arriving back to the factory at around 7pm, after stopping off at The Bell pub, Trysull, to raise a glass in his memory.

That raised £2,400 for the Air Ambulance and their recent Christmas party raised a further £1,400. Additional fundraising over the past 10 years brings the total raised to almost £7,000.

Bryan Holder, friend and colleague of Geoff said "Geoff always had a smile on his face, and was forever making everyone laugh. He was a true gentleman, great to be around and is greatly missed by us all."

Mr Lutner always wore his helmet, luminous clothing and night lights.

Adam Williams, regional fundraising manager said ""With no Government or National Lottery funding, each mission is funded by generous donations from people like Bry and his colleagues at Moog."

Air Ambulance donation – friends and colleagues line up with a picture of Geoff

Staying in EU vital for jobs, says MP

REMAINING in the EU is vital for jobs and investment across the country, says a Wolverhampton MP.

Emma Reynolds, Labour MP for Wolverhampton North East, was speaking after raising a question about the European referendum and the alternatives to EU membership with the Foreign Secretary in Parliament.

The referendum is expected this year and must be held before the end of 2017.

Ms Reynolds asked: "Does the Foreign Secretary believe that it would be in the UK's national interest to have the fax democracy of Norway, whereby we would be sent the rules and regulations of the single market, abide by the freedom of movement principle, and pay into the EU budget but have no seat around the negotiating table?"

"Remaining in the European Union is vital for jobs and investment in Wolverhampton and across the country. International companies like Jaguar Land Rover and UTC have invested in Wolverhampton in part because of our access to the European single market. Leaving the EU would put jobs and investment at risk," she added.

Removal bid on fitness equipment is rejected

A PETITION to remove fitness equipment and benches from a Wolverhampton green space due to anti-social behaviour fears has been rejected by councillors.

Residents of Lincoln Green, Bushbury had been fighting for the removal of the equipment, claiming the site has led to gangs causing trouble and had left some people 'scared to go to bed'.

But the City of Wolverhampton petitions committee were unanimously against it, due to the lack of evidence of anti-social behaviour in the area, the high cost of carrying out the removal and relocation and the health benefits of the fitness equipment.

by Nick Humphreys

Support

Bushbury North councillor Daniel Warren said: "This is in my area, and the people who put forward the petition did suffer a really terrible incident.

"I have spoken to them about this petition and helped support them at the time.

"At the time they were quite happy with the response they received, but 12 months on they decided the equipment must be removed. There seems to be a split in opinion on Lincoln Green.

"I think that even if the equipment wasn't there, what happened to the people would still have happened, there are a lot of trees and it's very dark at night time.

"There have been no reports of anti-social behaviour there in the last 12 months, so for it to be removed on that basis, I wouldn't be able to support the petition. I would support keeping the equipment but monitoring any anti-social activity. There is a clear cause for keeping the equipment and benches there."

Councillor Judith Rowley added: "The health aspect is enough to keep the equipment there. It is important these days to have this kind of facility available to people, especially with rising levels of obesity.

"We should have these kinds of facilities available indoors and outdoors, I would be loathe to support anything to remove them."

Dave Millington, compliance officer, told the committee of the research done and consultations made with residents in the area.

He said: "The petition was received on June 16. There were 25 names on it, 18 of which were people who actually live by Lincoln Green. We contacted multi-agencies including the police, and there were no reports of anti-social behaviour relating to the fitness equipment or the benches."

A&E doctor retires – after 30 years

A WOLVERHAMPTON doctor is retiring after 30 years of caring for patients as part of the A & E department at the city's New Cross hospital.

Dr Anil Kohli, of Tettenhall, began working for the Royal Hospital in January 1986 as a clinical assistant in the A & E department.

He then progressed to staff surgeon before becoming assistant specialist. When the Royal hospital closed down, Dr Kohli was one of three consultants working in A & E and was senior surgeon, with expertise in hand injuries and facial injuries.

He was thrilled to have received a special sculpture from his colleagues in the department – a hand holding a surgeon's knife. His portrait now features in the training room at New Cross hospital.

He will continue to support the busy A &E team at New Cross for up to three days a week.

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Founder of GP practice dies at 87

A FORMER Wolverhampton doctor who later worked at companies including Goodyear and the Express & Star has died at the aged of 87.

Dr Peter Barnes was a founder of the first general practice in Wombourne in the 1960s and later also worked as a GP in Penn.

But, at 65, he quit the NHS, went back to university and re-qualified in occupational health medicine, working at several companies as well as Telford Occupational Health Service until finally retiring a decade later.

Remembered as a gentle, unflappable man, Peter Barnes was a child of Empire, the son of a vet turned rubber plantation manager in Ceylon, now Sri Lanka.

Daughter Camilla Cunningham said: "He always said his earliest memory was of hearing a leopard cough in Ceylon."

At the age of just three-and-a-half young Peter was packed off with his siblings on a boat back to England to attend school, where he went on to earn his degree at Cambridge University before post-graduate studies at Dublin's Rotunda maternity hospital.

FOCUS ON WOMBOURNE AREA

£250k health and fitness club plan for ex-car lot

A WOMBOURNE man is behind a plan to turn a landmark former car dealership into a health and fitness club in a £250,000 project.

The proposal is for the former Enterprise Garage, which was a VW dealership, in Hollybush Road, Bridgnorth.

The move could see 15 jobs created at the site which has been empty for a number of years since the garage closed.

BY KARL ASTON

The man behind the plan is David Heath, who currently runs the active4less health and fitness club in Wombourne.

David, who lives in the village said: "I have always liked Bridgnorth, have visited here for years and see it as the ideal place for the new centre.

Ideal

"We wanted to expand our current operation and this site in Bridgnorth seems perfect, as it is close enough to Wombourne without competing with it.

"Structurally the building is ideal for a health and fitness club and I have seen numerous other clubs who have used ex-car dealers.

"The layout of the building is just right for our purpose, with large windows and plenty of car park space all fitting into what we need."

The new club would consist of a fitness suite, 50-bike spin studio, dance and aerobic studio, strength and conditioning area, functional training zone, boxing area, beauty rooms, treatment rooms, supplement shop and a small health café.

The club would also offer outdoor activities such as cycling and running clubs, as well as entering fitness events and holding social nights.

David, 48, said that his club in Wombourne, which opened 13 years ago, has proved very successful and the idea is to create a very similar model but on a larger scale in Bridgnorth.

He said: "Both clubs will be renamed Active Gyms and will be run by myself and my daughter Georgie.

"We are a family run company, Georgie manages the active4less club in Wombourne and my son Jake also works there."

South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson with the pupils on Parliament tour

Taste of politics for pupils

YOUNGSTERS got a taste of life in the corridors of power when they paid a visit to Parliament.

The pupils from St Bartholomew's School, Lower Penn, travelled to Westminster to meet with South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson.

The visit was due to their involvement in the student council at the school.

The students visited Parliament's newly-built Education Centre which teaches students about the history of the Palace of Westminster, before they enjoyed a tour around the House of Commons and House of Lords.

Mr Williamson said:"I was so impressed with the pupils' knowledge of both history and politics after their experience in Parliament's Education Centre. They were all extremely engaged asked numerous intelligent questions about how Parliament worked."

Fire teams in 377 home risk checks

FIREFIGHTERS across Staffordshire have carried out 377 safety visits in the homes of older residents as part of a ground-breaking initiative.

SAfER – Sustained Action for Evidencing Reduction of Risk – aims to improve the lives of the most vulnerable members of the community.

The scheme, a partnership between Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service and Age UK, is currently focussing on Stafford, Codsall, Wombourne and Kinver.

Bosses say the visits are making a 'positive difference to people's lives' as well as easing the pressure on the NHS by allowing residents to keep their independence.

Since it was launched last September the service has referred 153 people to Age UK for further support or services.

Free offers at leisure sites

LEISURE centres in South Staffordshire are offering people free fitness activities in line with a nationwide initiative.

The offer applies to bases in Cheslyn Hay, Codsall, Penkridge and Wombourne for the JanUary campaign.

Passes will include access for swimming, toning suites and exercise classes.

Free health checks are also available.

To claim the passes, visit www.ssfaffs.gov.uk/promotions

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Call to ban sales of the 'zombie knives'

THE West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner has called for an immediate and total ban on the sale of so-called 'zombie knives'.

David Jamieson has written to Home Secretary Theresa May and to the boss of Amazon UK, Chris North, who he has urged to take the first step and remove the items from sale in the UK.

The brutal weapons, with serrated blades of up to 2ft in length, are increasingly being carried by gangs on the streets of the UK.

And the blades, with names such as 'Skinner', 'Chopper' and 'Head Splitter', are available online for as little as £8.

Despite being marketed as collectors' items or having loose links to films and TV shows, they are being increasingly used by criminal gangs as status symbols.

Mr Jamieson is now demanding the sale of such weapons be banned in order to protect the public.

He said: "These so-called zombie knives have no practical usage whatsoever and are an increasing danger on our streets."

Paul Parry, who makes unique clocks, has recently been selected as a business initiative winner

Clockmaker hoping to go big time with designs

A CLOCKMAKER has been given his big break by entrepreneur and Dragons' Den star Theo Paphitis.

Bad Dog Designs, run by 43-year-old Paul Parry, has been selected as a winner of the Small Business Sunday initiative.

Paul, who has a day job in management, produces clocks with Nixie tubes and other upcycled electronics on evenings and weekends, from the spare bedroom of his home on Knights Bridge, Coven.

Mr Paphitis spotted Bad Dog Designs through his weekly Small Business Sunday initiative on Twitter, where he rewards entrepreneurs who send him a quick description of their business between 5-7.30pm along with the hashtag #SBS.

Paul has now been invited to showcase his product at Liberty's department store, Regent Street, London and will meet Mr Paphitis at an SBS convention at The ICC, Birmingham on February 12.

"Theo has Small Business Sunday on Twitter where he picks six winners every week and takes them under his wing," said Paul. "I have been invited to Liberty's in London with a view to pitching my clocks.

"There is also a convention at the ICC in February as well and I'll get to meet him there and get some advice from him. Its a great thing that he does. it gives great exposure to small businesses like mine."

Nixie tubes, which are used to display the time on Paul's clocks, were hugely popular in the 1950s and 60s and used in gadgets of the time, from petrol pumps to military equipment.

Every clock is handmade with recycled equipment and original vintage items.

Children in region top average for obesity

MORE than a third of children leaving primary school in the West Midlands are obese or overweight, according to latest statistics.

Figures from the National Child Measurement Programme show around 36 per cent, around 23,500, of year six children are obese or overweight, above the national average of 33.2 per cent.

Obesity has proved a problem with youngsters in the Black Country and Staffordshire too. A recent profile of children by the NHS showed figures for the proportion of children who are obese.

In Wolverhampton, 26.3 per cent of year six children were classed as obese. Sandwell, Walsall and Dudley were slightly lower with 24.5, 24.4 and 24.3 per cent respectively.

By Joe Edwards

Snacks

Also with more than a fifth of year six children obese is Cannock Chase at 20.2 per cent, with South Staffordshire just below at 19.1 per cent. Stafford has the least obese year six children at 15.2 per cent.

The British Heart Foundation has now called for a ban on all junk food TV advertisements before the 9pm watershed, as part of the Government's Childhood Obesity Strategy to help improve children's health.

Current regulation means foods high in fat, saturated fat, salt and sugar are banned from being advertised during children's programming.

However, with Ofcom figures showing 65 per cent of children watch TV during what is considered adult time, children are being exposed to adverts which promote unhealthy snacks such as crisps, chocolate bars and pizzas, the charity claims.

Up to 1.8 million children will watch TV between 7pm and 8pm.

Mike Hobday, director of policy at the British Heart Foundation, said: "It's worrying that so many children in the West Midlands are obese or overweight. Carrying excess weight into adulthood increases the risk of developing heart disease in later life.

"We mustn't allow food companies to continue to exploit a failing regulatory system that allows them to bombard TV screens with junk food adverts at the times when the highest numbers of children are watching TV.

"We need to protect young people against the sophisticated marketing techniques of junk food advertisers to help tackle the obesity crisis which threatens the heart health of future generations."

Mosque invite to 'get to know us'

A MOSQUE in Wolverhampton is to invite the local community through its doors in order to change misconceptions about people of the faith.

Ahmadiyya Mosque on Willenhall Road will open up to the community on Saturday at 2.30pm, offering teas, coffees and biscuits to residents.

Toby Ephram, organiser and the regional president of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Society, thinks the open afternoon will encourage more people to learn about the faith, coming together to get to know one another.

He said: "This is our way of supporting the local community. We are offering people the chance to come into the mosque to talk, learn more about one another."

"The mosque also has a pool table that people are invited to use. We are reaching out to the community to join us in this afternoon, to show how important it is to come together, whatever your faith, to get to know one another."

Chinese delegates with Donna Brown, Deputy Principal, and Ian Clinton, Interim Principal

College leads way for Chinese party

CHINESE delegates have visited Stafford College to develop vocational best practice.

Twenty Chinese education delegates have been learning more about vocational education in the UK and how to develop best practice back home in China.

The aim of the visit, which is supported by the British Council and the Ministry of Education (Beijing), was for delegates to learn more about leadership and management within vocational education.

The delegation also gained an understanding of the UK vocational education model, and specifically apprenticeship programmes.

Vocational education is in high demand in China with the government encouraging research at national, provincial and institutional level on vocational education and apprenticeships,

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benchmarking its model against other countries.

Stafford College was selected based on its work with employers as well as providing an example of college education outside of London.

Demonstrate

The visit offered insight into how the college met the demands of the local community.

Delegates were shown the new CAD-COE academy to demonstrate the use of technology in education and were taken to risual, who have an IT academy at the college, to learn more about apprenticeship frameworks. The visit follows last year's UK/Chinese trade talks with the UK emerging as its largest western partner.

Links have been strengthened since the Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne announced trade deals worth more than £30bn during a state visit by Chinese President Xi Jinping in October.

Ian Clinton, interim principal at Stafford College, said: "It is fantastic to see the college being recognised as a leader of vocational education in the UK.

"We spent the day sharing our knowledge and experiences within education and we were both able to develop a better understanding of practices across the world.

"We hope the delegates enjoyed their visit and will take away how vital vocational qualifications are for students and how they can support any economy."

Muddy good way to raise cash for charity - and fun too by the look of these entrants

Get muddy marvels on their marks for charity

GET those trainers at the ready girls – it's time to give cancer a good kicking by taking part in the region's Race for Life events.

Women of all shapes and sizes are being urged to sign up now to Cancer Research 2016 events.

The charity is calling on women to choose their event, Race for Life 5k, 10k or Pretty Muddy.

The charity has a series of 5k, and 10k races which also feature an obstacle course, taking place throughout the West Midlands including Wolverhampton, Walsall and Dudley this summer.

Women of all shapes and sizes are encouraged to get involved. The races will be held throughout April to June.

Katy Barley, Cancer Research UK's Event Manager, said: "Signing up to take part in Race for Life is a great way for women of all ages to commit to get a little more active.

"Taking part is not about being fit or fast and participants can choose to walk, jog, or run around the course. Planning to raise money for life-saving research could prove more of a goal to get up and get moving ."

One in two people in the UK will be diagnosed with cancer at some stage in their lives, but more people are surviving the disease now than ever before. Survival rates have doubled since the early 1970s.

Last year, Race for Life Pretty Muddy took place for the first time at Weston Park and it is the only 10k event taking place in the UK and it will be back there this year.

Women who sign up for 5k and 10k events in January can benefit from a specially reduced fee of £10.

Visit raceforlife.org or call 0300 123 0770.

Thousands of visitors to National Trust sites

TWO historic mansions in the Black Country have seen more than 115,000 visitors in the last year, new figures reveal.

National Trust properties Wightwick Manor House and Moseley Old Hall, both in Wolverhampton, have each had tens of thousands of people pouring through the doors.

Wightwick Manor House in Wightwick Bank is a Victorian mansion originally owned by Theodore Mander and saw 75,145 visitors in 2015.

Meanwhile Moseley Old Hall in Moseley Old Hall Lane, which is famous as a resting place for Charles II during his escape to France, welcomed 40,942 visitors.

Jo Armstrong from the National Trust, said: "We are delighted that visitor figures continue to rise year-on-year and at some places are record-breaking achievements.

Seasonal

"We are definitely attracting a lot more families and repeat visitors, which is fantastic and testament to our property teams working so hard to deliver a seasonal programme of activities, exhibitions and events."

In response to the increase in visitor numbers, the Trust has had to more than double the car parking spaces available at Moseley Old Hall.

The attraction to the sites has been attributed to the variety of activities on offer, with people coming from far and wide to admire the arts and crafts interiors, particularly at Wightwick Manor.

"As a conservation charity we rely on visitor income to help us maintain and protect the special places within our care, so we are delighted that we're seeing record visitor figures at the majority of our sites in the local area," she added.

The news comes after the National Trust recently revealed that Attingham Park in Shrewsbury is one of their top five sites visited in the UK, achieving close to 400,000 annual visitors.

Apartment block jibe

Criticised – the apartments, at Woodthorne, Wergs Road, Wolverhampton which have been labelled as 'mundane'

A LUXURY apartment block which opened in Wolverhampton has been branded 'bog-standard' and 'mundane' by a city councillor.

Hartley House has opened in Wergs Road, Tettenhall, as part of the David Wilson Homes Woodthorne development.

The three-storey block of 12 apartments has been modelled on Woodthorne House, a large stately home that stood near the site until it was demolished in the 1970s. Bosses say the development was painstakingly designed to 'capture the essence' of the original building.

But Councillor Jonathan Yardley, who represents Tettenhall Regis for the Tories. said: "For a start it is absolutely nothing like the original. We have lost 200 trees, more than 70 of which were the subject of Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs).

"It's just a bog standard, spec-built, mundane, run-of-the-mill apartment block."

When plans for the development were initially unveiled more than 60 people sent letters of objection to Wolverhampton council.

But the Mayor of Wolverhampton Councillor Ian Brookfield said: "The apartments and the whole development have a lovely feel and it is a fantastic addition to the community."

Classy £24m school revamp is welcomed

A REVAMP of a Wolverhampton school is complete, with education bosses describing the £24 million transformation as 'incredible'.

The new Heath Park School has been completed as part of Wolverhampton council's £270m Building Schools for the Future programme.

The 1,300 pupils and 140 teaching and support staff are now settling in to the new three-storey building on Prestwood Road. Its features include a 250-person capacity lecture theatre, a film and media suite and fully equipped food technology room.

City education boss, Councillor Claire Darke, said: "These are incredible new facilities and demonstrate just how far education provision has come in Wolverhampton in the last decade or so.

Deserve

"The new school will help further improve the excellent teaching and learning which already takes place at Heath Park, which was rated Outstanding by Ofsted in 2014, and I am delighted that the City of Wolverhampton Council has been able to give the pupils and teachers the facilities they deserve."

The site also has state-of-the-art science labs, art rooms and a discreet section of the school for younger, key stage 3 students.

Headteacher Georgetta Holloway said: "We are delighted with every aspect of the new school; our students have always been amazing and I'm pleased that they now have a building which is also truly amazing.

"Everything about the new school is as planned. The students are hugely impressed and proud of their new surroundings."

Pupils can benefit from a fully-equipped food technology room

359 officers leave in year

MORE than 350 police officers in the West Midlands have lost their jobs in the past 12 months, according to new figures.

Between December 1, 2014 and November 30, 2015, a total of 359 officers left the force - 220 of which were of retirement age. The force was unable to recruit new officers from 2010 to 2015 because of Government implemented cuts, which seriously damaged its budget.

However, the process was restarted in the middle of last year, meaning it is already halfway into its new recruitment drive. So far, 450 new recruits have joined the force and have been funded by using reserved cash.

A pledge from West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson and his predecessor Bob Jones secured the funding but it is unknown how the new police budgets will cope with the influx of new officers, especially as bigger intakes are due to take place later this year.

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Reporter Pete feels the heat while experiencing life at McDonald's - and finds it's 'bloody hard work'

McDonald's Penn Road franchisee Abdul Sirkhot

The Penn Road branch of McDonald's, Wolverhampton

Reporter Pete hands over a meal to a drive-thru customer

I'm not lovin' it

My cPerience

Report by PETER MADELEY

It's hard work. You have to be willing to push yourself, otherwise you won't last here."

Abdul Sirkhot smiles as he talks me through the qualities required of the typical McDonald's staff member.

We're sitting in the back room of the Penn Road branch that he runs as franchisee - one of 11 under his wing across the Black Country and Birmingham.

I'm about to get first hand of experience of the job as an entry level worker, taking in an abridged version of the induction during which I'll prepare and serve food and drinks.

And I'm in safe hands. There are likely to be few people with a greater in-depth knowledge of the world's biggest fast food chain than Abdul.

He started out at the Baker Street branch in London in 1982, eight years after the firm opened its first UK restaurant.

His first shift was spent scrubbing sink base boards, now 33 years later he's the boss of his own ever-expanding McEmpire.

"McDonalds is in my blood," he tells me.

"For the first 20-25 years I worked seven days a week. It suited me, but working here is not for everyone. You need to be committed.

"We can get very busy and the work is non-stop. We look for people who are happy to work hard. People come here for the service as well as the food.

"You have to have a smile on your face."

You also have to be willing to start off on minimum wage. New starters get £6.71 an hour, which Abdul sets himself in line with company policy.

But he refutes the 'McJob' label, a slang term which references the company to describe low-paying jobs with little or no chance of promotion.

"Across the company 60 per cent of the business managers started out on hourly pay," he told me.

"The company thrives on advancement. We want people who start with us to prove their worth and work their way up through the company.

"Anyone who says this is low-end work is talking through ignorance.

"We think the starting wage is decent. If you are good enough you will progress and earn more."

Keeping hold of staff has traditionally been a key issue at McDonald's. Abdul employs 1,025 workers at his restaurants, but staff turnover is between 50 and 55 per cent a year.

Recruitment boss Jazz Rooprai interviews between 45 and 50 potential starters each week and has taken on 530 workers in the last 12 months.

"We are a first job for a lot of people," Jazz said. "The turnover is high because a lot of people come and work for us before going away to university.

"Some of them come back. Ideally we want quality staff to stay with us for longer because we put a lot of work into training them for the role."

The role, as I was about to find out, involves working at speed

After familiarising myself with the menu via a computer game it was time for a quick spin on the McDonald's board game – designed to test workers' knowledge of the firm and build team spirit.

I was all set to enter the fray.

Stepping behind the counter into the McDonald's kitchen was like wandering into a whirlwind.

To the outsider it's a production line, but actually it's six separate production lines all working simultaneously.

Assemble

Burgers are cooked on a large stove and fed through to two prep lines, each featuring three staff who assemble and box them, before sliding them down to the production bin.

I quickly learned the 'bin' as it is known, is the final frontier.

The place where the Big Macs, Filets 'o' Fish and pretty much every other edible item are sent to before being served.

An early cry of "five cheese, two in the bin," led me to believe that blocks of cheddar had been thrown out with the rubbish.

In fact I was being told that five cheese burgers were required but only two ready to go out to customers.

Once there the food is distributed by the front of house staff. They call out the order – naming the items, never just the number – to be collected by customers, but not before any accompanying drinks are collected.

They are prepared on another line staffed by two people at busy times, and as a general rule must be served at the same time as the food.

On top of this you have the drive-thru – the place where 60 per cent of all orders are served.

Decked out in my uniform – designed by Wayne Hemingway no less – I started off on prep line one under the guidance of assistant manager Stacey Talbot. I'm second in line, meaning buns are slid down to me by 'the initiator', a colleague who, as it swiftly becomes apparent, works with incredible speed and precision.

Pete making a Big Mac at the Penn Road restaurant

The order flashes on a screen above her head and in a split second she's laid down two cheese burger wrappers and their accompanying buns.

My job as 'the assembler' is to add the condiments and lettuce before handing over to 'the finisher', who adds the burgers and boxes or wraps up the finished item.

My first effort saw ketchup squirt off the side of the bun. Within the blink of an eye it was swiped from in front of me and binned.

"That's a reject, we'll start again," says Stacey, a six-year McDonald's veteran who started out at the Stafford Road branch.

Effort number two sees the ketchup and mustard successfully applied, but I clumsily tear a piece of cheese in half, leading to more wastage and a further delay as I struggle to separate two pieces of the stuff that appear to be sealed together.

By this stage 'the initiator' has the buns for a Big Mac, a Festive Feast and two boxes for six chicken nuggets getting lonely on the work surface in front of her.

Pete plays a training programme with recruitment boss Jazz Rooprai

I'd been on the job less than 60 seconds and already I was flagging badly. Abdul appears and tells prep line one not to worry about the food count for next hour or so.

Unbeknown to me at the time there's fierce competition playing out between the two lines as to which one can churn out the most food over the course of an hour.

Presentable

The record for the Penn Road restaurant is 491 – that's more than eight burgers a minute.

So not only were my bungling efforts scuppering a tried and tested system, I was also wreaking havoc with the in-house bragging rights.

Eventually I managed to make a couple of presentable burgers at a half decent pace, but then 'special orders' started to appear.

A filet without any tartare sauce, a plain hamburger, two Big Macs without any pickles.

My head was spinning. For a while I had been gazing longingly at the drinks section. It looked easy. Stick a cup under a Coke tap and push a button – even I can do that.

Or not as it turned out. The sheer number of different drinks and cup sizes quickly got on top of me.

"Every meal has a drink with it," Stacey told me. "There's a lot of pressure in the drinks section because the meal can't be served to the customer if the drink isn't ready to go."

I on the other hand, was ready to go – over to the serving area where I felt confident in my ability to smile at customers and hand over their food and drinks.

But again I was completely useless, losing track of order numbers and never truly mastering how to close a Happy Meal box despite numerous attempts.

Only during a brief sojourn at the drive-thru section did I come into my own. Exhausted I made a bee-line for the seating area and tucked into a Big Mac meal – one made by a professional rather than one of my own ham-fisted attempts.

Watching the operation from afar it was clear that without my interference the whole things runs like clockwork. And it needs to with 30,000 customers coming through the doors every week.

Despite hundreds of items passing through the production bin every hour it never gets clogged up – a testament to the speed and efficiency of the operation.

"There's a real sense of achievement when the shift is over and you know you've done a good job," said Abdul, stick thin despite his admission that he eats McDonald's almost every day.

The 'good job' part certainly didn't apply to my efforts, but I'm left with the feeling that it's bloody hard work for £6.71 an hour.

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* As identified by Education Secretary Nicky Morgan MP January 2015

Primary School

Local authority performances

Table of local authorities, ranked by percentage of pupils achieving Level 4 or above in both reading and maths tests and in writing, in their primary schools.

1 City of London (96%)
79 Wolverhampton (80%)
79 Dudley (80%)
79 Sandwell (80%)
79 Staffordshire (80%)
142 Walsall (76%)

KEY: a. the number of pupils on roll eligible for assessment in National Curriculum Key Stage 2 tests this year.
b. The percentage of pupils achieving Level 4 – the expected level for the age group or above – in the reading test.
c. The percentage of pupils who have made two or more levels of progress in reading between the ages of seven and 11.
d. The percentage of pupils achieving Level 4 or above in writing.
e. The percentage of pupils who have made two or more levels of progress in writing between the ages of seven and 11.
f. The percentage of pupils achieving Level 4 or above in the maths test.
g. The percentage of pupils who have made two or more levels of progress in maths between the ages of seven and 11.
h. The percentage of pupils achieving Level 4 or above in both the reading and maths tests and in writing.
i. The school's average points score.
j. The ranking within its own local authority which each school achieves, according to the percentage of pupils achieving Level 4 or above in reading, writing and maths.
New primary free schools that do not yet have test results will show n/a.

Wolverhampton

Primary School	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j
Bantock Primary	35	86	100	77	100	71	88	69	26.4	60
Berrybrook Primary	20	95	100	90	100	100	100	90	30.2	17
Bilston CofE, Bilston	30	90	93	77	100	93	100	73	27.7	51
Bushbury Hill	28	71	89	68	96	71	85	54	25.4	67
Castlecroft Primary	32	91	90	88	100	91	100	88	28.5	22
Christ Church Junior	62	95	85	89	95	79	77	76	28.5	43
Claregate Primary	54	93	98	94	100	91	96	89	29.8	18
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary	30	97	100	93	97	97	93	93	28.4	11
Deyncourt Primary	45	91	91	89	100	87	91	84	28.1	28
Dovecotes Primary	26	92	88	77	96	85	96	73	28.1	52
Dunstall Hill Primary	27	85	92	93	100	81	96	74	27.4	49

WHITGREAVE JUNIOR SCHOOL

We enter to learn! We leave and achieve!

Well it's celebrations all round at Whitgreave Junior School, in Low Hill, as the school achieved 6th place in the League Tables for Wolverhampton, along with a recent OUTSTANDING judgement from Ofsted, in November 2015!

The school achieved 96% in the SATs, for Reading, Writing and Maths, which is above the National Average, despite having more than double National the number of pupils eligible for Free School Meals and a double National deprivation factor!

Headteacher Sarah Redfern said: "I feel extremely privileged and very proud to be the Headteacher of such an exciting and vibrant school. All members of the Whitgreave Team are totally dedicated and work tirelessly to achieve the very best for all of our pupils."

Awards

The school has achieved a number of awards over the last few years, including The Leading Parent Partnership Award, Basic Skills Award, Lets Get Cooking Accreditation, The Primary Science Quality Mark, along with various Eco Awards.

Pupils at Whitgreave are offered a range of extra-curricular opportunities, include Before and After-School Clubs, Forest Schools Provision, quality curriculum-based trips, special visitors, Projects with other local schools, a range of Parental Events and also, the chance to be a Radio Presenter on Whitgreave Community Radio. In addition, school has its own Parent Prefects, who work within school, along with staff, to plan, deliver and facilitate family learning opportunities to parents and carers, in line with the school's curriculum.

Pupil are also involved in the school's on-going monitoring, as school has a Junior Leadership Team, who work alongside Senior Leaders within school, to observe lessons, monitor books and progress, carry out pupil interviews and learning walks, providing feedback to staff and governors.

Excellent

In their recent Inspection, Ofsted said: "Pupils' behaviour is excellent. They are kind and thoughtful and play a central role in school improvement."

Headteacher Sarah Redfern said: "We will continue to work together as a cohesive team, to further enhance our current provision for our pupils. Go Team Whitgreave!"

Goodyear Avenue, Low Hill, Wolverhampton WV10 9JP
Telephone: 01902 558930
Fax: 01902 558932
Email: whitgreavejuniorschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Perry Hall Multi-Academy Trust

The Perry Hall Multi-Academy Trust...

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Ensuring that the children are always at the heart of everything we do

Perry Hall Primary and Berrybrook Primary are both part of the Perry Hall Multi-Academy Trust and are committed to providing every child with the best possible start in life. Creative teaching methods which are both imaginative and challenging are used to ensure each individual child is encouraged to develop a love of learning. Hardworking staff at Perry Hall MAT are dedicated to ensuring all pupils have the opportunities to reach their full potential through teaching an engaging curriculum, and a shared ethos and values throughout both schools.

The achievements obtained by Perry Hall MAT continues to grow every year. Last year, Perry Hall Primary received a Pupil Premium award from RT Hons David Laws PM, Minister of State for Schools. The award congratulates the school on being one of the most improved schools in the country for attainment and progress of disadvantaged pupils since 2011. Perry Hall Primary were also awarded £1000, which the school council used to redevelop the pond area and the outdoor environment.

This year the Trust - Andrew Brocklehurst (Chair of Trustees), Amarjit Cheema, (Executive Head), Rekha Kohli (Perry Hall Head of School) and Tom Hinkley (Berrybrook Head of School), have all felt particularly proud of both schools as Perry Hall has continued to climb the Wolverhampton league tables to 10th place, and Berrybrook moved up to 17th place this year. Such achievements and success over the last few years would not be possible without the effort and enthusiasm of the children, the increasing support of the parents and the effective teams of hardworking staff.

Success Stories

Primary School	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j
East Park Primary	87	79	80	87	95	82	84	72	27.1	53
Eastfield Primary	29	93	100	86	100	86	83	79	28.2	36
Edward the Elder Primary	26	81	76	85	96	85	88	81	28.0	32
Elston Hall Primary	90	100	100	94	100	94	100	93	31.0	9
Fallings Park Primary	54	93	96	81	90	93	98	78	29.1	39
Field View Primary, Bilston	51	71	83	90	96	82	89	69	27.5	58
The Giffard Catholic Primary	23	91	90	87	90	83	95	74	27.9	50
Goldthorn Park Primary	47	79	83	85	100	72	86	68	27.5	61
Graiseley Primary	20	85	93	75	100	85	87	65	28.0	63
Grove Primary	30	70	84	53	80	70	92	47	25.6	68
Hill Avenue Primary	33	70	75	76	84	61	63	55	26.5	66
Holy Rosary Catholic Primary	21	90	100	81	95	90	100	76	27.3	46
Holy Trinity Catholic, Bilston	30	100	97	97	100	100	100	97	31.1	3
Lanesfield Primary	39	90	92	69	86	92	97	69	28.7	59
Long Knowle Primary	30	83	86	93	100	87	93	80	28.4	33
Loxdale Primary Bilston	26	85	91	81	100	77	96	77	27.6	41
Manor Primary Bilston	57	100	98	100	100	100	96	100	31.8	1
Merridale Primary	30	87	100	83	93	87	93	83	28.7	31
Nishkam Primary	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Northwood Park Primary	57	98	98	96	100	95	98	91	29.4	13
Oak Meadow Primary	55	96	96	91	94	82	87	76	28.4	44
Oxley Primary Wolverhampton	20	95	94	75	100	80	89	65	27.6	64
Palmers Cross Primary	17	88	88	88	94	88	88	88	27.0	25
Parkfield Primary Wolverhampton	21	95	90	95	100	90	95	90	29.3	16
Perry Hall Primary	55	96	96	95	100	95	96	93	30.5	10
Rakegate Primary	54	89	92	83	94	83	89	69	27.4	57
St Alban's Cof E Primary	12	83	92	92	100	83	92	75	28.8	48
St Andrew's Cof E Primary	40	80	94	85	97	75	89	70	26.8	55
St Anthony's Catholic Primary	40	98	97	85	89	90	89	83	29.4	30
St Bartholomew's Cof E Primary	42	98	98	98	100	100	100	98	33.0	2
St Jude's Cof E Primary	60	95	96	93	98	92	96	88	30.2	21
St Luke's CofE Aided	58	93	93	83	96	86	98	78	28.4	38
St Martin's Cof E Primary	29	100	96	93	93	100	100	93	31.5	12
St Mary and St John Catholic	21	95	95	90	100	71	80	71	27.6	54
St Mary's Catholic Primary	43	98	100	93	98	98	100	91	29.4	15
St Michael's Academy & Nursery	29	86	86	90	100	86	89	76	28.4	45
St Michael's Cof E	33	76	84	67	87	73	77	61	26.0	65
St Patrick's Catholic Primary	26	85	92	85	96	85	88	77	28.3	42
St Paul's Cof E	32	94	94	94	100	97	100	88	28.8	23
St Stephen's Cof E	29	100	100	97	100	100	100	97	30.9	4
St Teresa's Catholic	21	81	100	76	100	76	90	67	27.4	62
St Thomas' Cof E	30	93	97	87	93	87	97	80	29.3	34
Spring Vale Primary	31	97	100	94	97	97	100	94	29.9	8
Springdale Junior	56	91	80	88	89	89	72	84	27.5	27
Stow Heath, Willenhall	57	82	91	79	88	86	88	75	27.6	47
Stowlawn Primary, Bilston	30	83	83	93	100	90	90	80	28.1	35
Trinity Cof E Primary	52	96	98	87	98	88	98	85	29.9	26
Uplands Junior School	92	98	99	96	97	99	99	96	31.1	5
Villiers Primary, Bilston	74	88	90	91	97	89	86	77	28.3	40
Warstones, Wolverhampton	47	94	96	89	100	96	100	89	29.5	19
West Park, Wolverhampton	28	93	95	93	100	100	100	89	28.4	20
Whitgreave Junior	50	96	100	96	100	98	100	96	30.1	6
Wilkinson, Bilston	45	96	98	93	100	100	100	91	30.0	14
Woden Primary	32	91	100	88	100	88	100	88	29.0	24
Wodensfield Primary	58	95	95	86	98	88	91	83	29.1	29
Wood End Primary	30	93	93	77	80	83	83	70	28.4	56
Woodfield Junior	83	93	94	86	94	87	91	78	29.5	37
Woodthorne Primary	57	100	100	95	100	100	100	95	31.0	7

Wilkinson Primary School

"Show pride and respect in all that we do"

Wilkinson Primary is situated in Bradley, Bilston on the edge of the City of Wolverhampton. It is built on and takes its name from the famous historical site of John Wilkinson's iron foundry. Built originally in 1973, after a devastating arson attack in 2010, Wilkinson re-opened in January 2014.

We are very happy to have a school which is made to the highest standards. We are able to offer our pupils a 21st Century building which facilitates a broad and balanced curriculum. Our aim is to expose our children to as many wonderful experiences that we possibly can so that post 11 they can make informed choices and follow their dreams.

We are fortunate to have a dedicated, talented team of staff who give their time freely to run extra-curricular clubs, all of which are over-subscribed , as is the school. Our Care facility, which runs before and after school and through the school holidays is held in high regard and is truly valued by our working parents.

I am very proud of all the children at Wilkinson, they work hard, uphold our school motto and as a result receive many compliments about their impeccable manners and behaviour.

Wilkinson Primary School
Walter Road, Bilston
WV14 8UR

01902 558971
wilkinsonprimaryschool.gov.uk
www.wilkinsonprimaryschool.uk

Woden Primary School

Springfield Road,
Wolverhampton,
West Midlands, WV10 0LH
Tel 01902 558880
enquiries@wodenprimary.org
www.wodenprimary.org

Ofsted Outstanding School 2014/2015

At Woden we aim to provide our pupils with the best possible start in their life. Our school strives to provide a happy, safe, creative and welcoming environment in which children and adults from all cultures and backgrounds are valued, encouraged and empowered to succeed.

Pupils, show great tenacity, they love challenging themselves and gain a great sense of accomplishment when they manage to complete the challenging tasks they choose or are given. - **Ofsted 2015.**

Woden Primary School is part of The Central Learning Partnership Trust: a company limited by Guarantee

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Northwood Park Primary School

Northwood Park Primary School
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Strictly Stunning

Salsa dancer Norma's new smile would get a 'ten from Len'

Norma Aston – all my confidence is back

A PICTURE snapped at a dance group's farewell party to mark a friend's departure to Jamaica showed more than what vivacious Norma Aston was expecting.

As the well-wishes were made and memorable dancing stories exchanged amongst members of the Uksalsafeet classes at Willenhall's Chart Centre, the cameras and smart phones did their work.

But a single profile shot of Norma captured a different story to all the other photographs taken at that event.

"My teeth had been troublesome for years, but when I saw the photo and realised just how far forward my top teeth had moved I knew I had to get something done. It was a turning point for me," recalls Norma of Willenhall.

The youthful 60-something-year-old salsa enthusiast, who attends classes every Saturday to help perfect her technique in this pastime made popular by programmes like Strictly Come Dancing, adds: "There were a number of things that came together which encouraged me to get things sorted.

"I had seen an article in my local paper about a woman, Ann [Skitt], who attends the same gym as myself at the centre. I was impressed how problems with her teeth were resolved."

Ann, a patient of Denture Clinic principal Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS(Eng), suffered with an ill-fitting, lower denture and a long-standing issue was fixed with an implant-retained prosthetic.

Adds Norma: "I knew what I wanted and was already in my mind going down the implant denture route.

"At the same time, my step-daughter was encouraging me to see her implant dentist, the well-respected Dr Owain Rees."

"I asked my regular dentist to refer me to Steven and a consultation was arranged. Dental work is such a visual thing and unlike hospital surgical work we get to choose who undertakes it.

"It was so important for me that I made the correct choice."

Enthusiastic

Husband Don, a former design engineer and dance band frontman, who met Norma 32 years ago while playing at the Corpus Christi Centre, Wednesfield, takes up the story: "We'd done some research, but websites can really say anything and it's not the same as getting an impression face to face. When we saw Steven, he was so enthusiastic about his work and instilled confidence in us that his clinic would be able to do the job well. But I had one searching question that was really important to me. I told him 'I know my wife' and then asked: 'Will she still be the same after the work is completed?'

North Street's dental implant surgeon, Dr Owain Rees (left) BDS, DGDP (UK) Dip Imp Dent (UCL) GDC 61576 with principal Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS(Eng) GDC 108353

"Steven was very reassuring and told me she would look the same, but with better teeth. We were never pressured and told to go away and think things through before making a decision."

With referrals in-house, Norma was seen by North Street Dental and Implant Clinic surgeon Dr Owain Rees BDS, DGDP (UK) DIP IMP DENT (UCL). Under one roof, with four modern surgeries, the clinical discipline of high quality denture provision sits side by side with general, cosmetic and implant dentistry. Norma's treatment plan included intravenous sedation, the placing of six lower implants to support a removable overdenture and a traditional upper denture prescription. The former City Hospital accounts manager, says: "Knowing that Owain was going to do the surgery was great .

"He explained everything and I embraced the treatment plan.

"I'd always cared for my teeth, but I have a family history of gum problems and for more than 20 years I'd had a partial denture. I never realised it didn't fit properly until I saw Steven. I'd just grown into it.

"My new teeth . . . I couldn't ask for more and I'm amazed at the difference. They look so natural," she adds. Don agrees her new smile is "stunning."

Confidence is back

Norma enjoys a hectic lifestyle juggling dancing with personal commitments and volunteer stints at the Locksmith's House, Willenhall, a well-preserved piece of living Victorian history.

"I love working there and Don helps too. I used to be self-conscious of my smile when meeting people and was always careful how I smiled. Now I have all my confidence back and my only regret is that I didn't get my teeth sorted out three years ago."

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Rockers swagger back with style

ALBUMS

by Leon Burakowski

THE classic bluesy rock on White Bear, the second album from The Temperance Movement, further establishes this British band as torch bearers for honest no-nonsense rock.

Their music is in the swaggering tradition of The Black Crowes and AC/DC with nods to the reflective West Coast style of the likes of Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young.

The band already have a reputation as a great live act and White Bear will add to their legion of fans, particularly thanks to full-throated Scottish frontman Phil Campbell.

They have already won The Rolling Stones' seal of approval, having been chosen to support the living legends on tour.

Highlights on White Bear include the stomping Three Bulleits and the free-wheeling, expansive A Pleasant Peace I Feel.

Bear necessities — The Temperance Movement Picture by Rob Blackham

Notorious

Check them out in concert at Birmingham's O2 Institute in Digbeth on Monday, January 25.

Notorious for unpleasant on-stage antics, it's a safe bet that **Fat White Family** aren't looking to become family favourites by name checking killer GP Doctor Shipman, Italian dictator Mussolini and Hitler's henchman Joseph Goebbels with tracks on second album **Songs For Our Mothers**.

Their sound is so slippery it's hard to pin down, which isn't a bad thing. Safe to say, if you enjoy the loose grooves of The Happy Mondays and/or the intensity of John Lydon's PIL, this ramshackle bunch are certainly worth listening to.

I suspect that with a little more focus Songs For Our Mothers could have been an exceptional album. There are more than a few hints of that amid all the frazzled strangeness.

It begins with the relentless Krautrock rhythm of Whitest Boy On The Beach, takes it to another woozy level on Satisfied, and reaches its zenith with Duce — imagine some mad jam involving The Yardbirds, the Glitter Band and chanting Gregorian monks.

The delivery of lyrics range from whispers to screams with chants in between, and are mostly indistinct, which is perhaps a good thing given the band's desire to shock. But the cumulative effect is wonky, weird and overwhelming.

You can catch Fat White Family live when they kick off their latest tour at Birmingham's O2 Institute on February 20 — don't say I didn't warn you.

Nearly three years on from the debut album by **Savages**, Silence Yourself, **Adore Life** finds the London-based black-clad female band perfecting their spikey goth/punk sound, which recalls the likes of Penetration and Siouxsie and the Banshees, with a theme that often returns to sexual politics.

Lead singer Jehnny Beth has a stentorian tone but also reveals a more vulnerable side on Adore and Slowing Down The World.

But if you want pure punk attitude, it doesn't come much more withering than the put-down I Need Something New. When In Love is a stand-out track with its questing lyric and incendiary passion whilst Mechanics makes for a dark, apocalyptic closure.

President oversees busy year for club

Talk aided by scenes of winter

Bilbrook WI

THE December meeting was the Christmas party for members and invited guests.

Following Jerusalem and the welcome, President Julie introduced the guest speaker Ian Bott, who gave a very enjoyable presentation entitled 'Black Country Winter'.

Being a born and bred Black Country lad he was very knowledgeable and passionate on the subject. His talk was aided by a selection of lovely winter Black Country scenes of past and present. Win gave a vote of thanks and Ian was invited to join the ladies for something to eat.

The ladies came up trumps once again with a wonderful selection of sweet and savoury food, tea or coffee, wine or juice.

The competition of a handmade Christmas card was won by June. This was followed by the raffle. A vote of thanks was given to Bilbrook for hosting this event, members and visitors all agreed the afternoon had been a total success.

At meeting is on January 18, Paul Fox entertained with 'Comic Poetry'.

The following meeting, on February 15, will see Anita Murphy giving a talk on the history of perfume.

We meet on the third Monday in the month 2-4pm in Holy Cross Church Hall, Bilbrook Road, Bilbrook.

Visitors will be made very welcome, admission £3 to include refreshments. For further information telephone President Julie Hammersley on 01902 843867.

Thinking caps put on for quiz

Trysull & Seisdon WI

PRESIDENT Sue Cotterell welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new year and thanked Rita Brown for organising the lovely meal at the Christmas party.

She asked members for any suggestions they may have for speakers or outings for the forthcoming months. Sue Bicknell has organised a visit to Hagley Hall on Wednesday March 2. This will include a tour of the house followed by refreshments.

The ladies were handed a general knowledge quiz provided by Clare Preece which had the racking their brains. There was no speaker but the ladies enjoyed a social afternoon catching up after Christmas over homemade cakes and tea.

Everyone agreed that having an afternoon meeting during the winter months was very successful. The next meeting is on February 11 at 2pm in the village hall, Trysull.

The speaker has yet to be confirmed but the group are always pleased to welcome visitors and new members.

Tettenhall and District WI

TETTENHALL and District WI had a very good 2015, with some very enjoyable talks. The club welcomed its new president Heather Macey in March, and several new members joined throughout the year.

In July there was a very successful jam and jewellery stall at Tettenhall fete with all proceeds going to the Haven, a shelter for women. In August, everyone all enjoyed a talk and tour around the Albrighton Moat Trust which was very enlightening, and a well deserved donation was made to a very worthwhile charity.

In October, the club we hosted the Southern Forest District meeting which had a Halloween theme, a buffet supper, a brilliant magician and a prize for the best gingerbread people and vegetable lantern.

We finished the year with a Christmas buffet and wine.

A representative from the Haven came and updated the group on the work they do and a cheque was presented to them along with lots of donated toiletries from WI members.

Cute hairdressers from Tettenhall also came and gave some tips on party hairstyles and several members went home with new styles – a great evening was had by all.

The club always welcome any new members. Meetings are every second Monday of the month at Tettenhall United Reformed Church at 7.30pm. For further information ring 07976779598.

£83 raised for air ambulance

Shareshill WI

SECRETARY Sue Davidson welcomed everyone, especially new members, guests from Cannock and Hayes Green and president Margaret Beddard – happily recovered from a short illness – to the Christmas party.

A visit from Father Christmas with a present for everyone got the party started, then it was time to tuck into the buffet provided by Em Barker.

A competition for the person best dressed in the spirit of Christmas was won by Rose Lynk with Pauline Sawbridge and Joyce Webb runners-up. Instead of sending cards, members made donations to the Midlands Air Ambulance Fund raising £83.

Entertainment was provided by husband and wife duo "Jagged to Jones" with a medley of popular songs and festive favourites.

fast theticket

Rock on

Rocky Horror Show is back – Page 33

Shakespeare remade

See Page 33

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Call 0121 643 5858

The Legend Of King Arthur
Sun at 7.30pm, £10
Oakengates Theatre, Telford, TF2 6EP. Call 01952 382382

The Great Gatsby
Thu at 7.30pm,
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, SY3 8FT. Call 01743 281281

The Midnight Soup
Sat at 2pm, 8pm,
mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

The Rocky Horror Show
Mon at 8pm, Tue at 8pm, Wed at 8pm, Thu at 8pm,
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

Lady Lust
Fri at 8pm - 10pm, Sat at 8pm - 10pm,
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Macbeth
Tue at 7pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at 2pm, 7.30pm,
£8.50 - £35
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Peter Pan
Fri at 2.30pm, 7.15pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.15pm, Sun at 2pm, 6pm, £17 - £31.50
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

The Snowman
Fri at 2pm, 7pm, Sat at 11am, 3pm, 7pm, Sun at 3pm,
£13.50 - £35
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Aladdin
Sun at 5.15pm, Tue at 2pm, 7.15pm, Wed at 2pm, 7.15pm, Thu at 12pm, 12pm, 7.15pm, £14 - £42
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

COMEDY

Birmingham Is Funny: Foghorn Unscripted - What The Dickens?
Sat at 7.30pm,
mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

No Such Thing As A Fish With The QI Elves: Live Tour
Sat at 8pm,
mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

Isy Suttie: The Actual One
Tue at 8pm,
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

The Best In Live Stand-Up Comedy
Fri, Sat at 7pm,
The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

Comedy In The Met
Sat at 8pm,
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT.
Call 01785 254653

Dave Gorman: Gets Straight To The Point (The PowerPoint)
Tue at 8pm, £24
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

TALKS & OTHER EVENTS

The REP And Innovation In Theatre Design: Talk
Thu at 12pm, £4.50 - £12
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

Beta International 2016
Sun at 9.30am - 6pm, Mon at 9.30am - 6pm, Tue at 9.30am - 4.30pm,
The NEC Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

The Monster Energy Arenacross Tour
Sat at 7pm, Sun at 3pm
Genting Arena, Birmingham, B40 1NT.
Call 0121 780 4141

CLUBBING

Quadrophenia Night
Sat - Sun at 8pm - 1am,
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

EL-B
Fri - Sat at 10pm - 3am,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Return of Rocky's raunchy musical

Do the time warp again with those naughty s-extraterrestrials when The Rocky Horror Show arrives in Birmingham

SINCE its first appearance at London's Royal Court Theatre in June 1973, Richard O'Brien's The Rocky Horror Show has become the world's favourite rock 'n' roll musical.

It has been performed for over 40 years and has been translated into more than 20 languages, as well as becoming a cult movie.

Director Christopher Luscombe created a new production to celebrate the 40th anniversary and this version of the show is back by popular demand, embarking on a year-long national tour including a stint at Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre from Monday to Saturday.

X Factor finalist and chart-topper Diana Vickers will star in the role of Janet Weiss, opposite Emmerdale actor Ben Freeman as Brad Majors. S Club 7 star Paul Cattermole will join them as rocker Eddie and Dr Scott. West End star Liam Tamne, who shot to fame on The Voice, has been cast as transexual alien icon Frank N Furter.

Following over 900 performances of the 40th anniversary tour, Kristian Lavercombe returns as Riff Raff.

The musical extravaganza features classic songs including Science Fiction/Double Feature, Dammit Janet and, of course, The Time-Warp.

Double double toil and trouble

ACTORS John Heffernan and Anna Maxwell Martin will star as the most famous power couple in drama in an ambitious and highly physical new staging of Shakespeare's Macbeth, at Birmingham Repertory Theatre from Tuesday to Saturday.

Scottish nobleman Macbeth, inspired by the prophecy of three witches, embarks on a murderous journey of power, treachery and paranoia in his bid to gain the Scottish throne, encouraged by his ambitious wife.

Maxwell Martin (pictured left as Lady Macbeth) is a twice Bafta award winning actress, for Bleak House and Poppy Shakespeare, also known for Death Comes to Pemberley. She was most recently seen on TV screens in The Frankenstein Chronicles, Midwinter of the Spirit and the BBC's Christmas whodunnit And Then There Were None.

Luther

Heffernan, who plays Macbeth, is one of this country's leading stage actors with the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company. He has also recently been seen on screen in Dickensian and Luther.

The production has been directed by Carrie Cracknell and choreographer Lucy Guerin, who also collaborated on the National Theatre's acclaimed production of Medea.

The Rep will stage several Shakespeare plays this year, including Twelfth Night and King Lear, to mark the 400th anniversary of his death. See www.birmingham-rep.co.uk

Strictly fabulous as celebs keep dancing

THE Strictly Come Dancing Live Tour returns to Birmingham for a fab-ulous ninth year.

Leading the pack will be this year's Glitter Ball winner Jay McGuiness, from boyband The Wanted. He will be partnered again by professional Aliona Vilani, who has announced that she is quitting the BBC TV show.

Other celebrities booked in for the three-day Birmingham run from tomorrow (Fri) to Sunday are Georgia May Foote, Helen George, Frankie Bridge, Ainsley Harriott, Anita Rani, and Jake Wood. They will be joining the 2016 tour host Mel Giedroyc, together with judges Len Goodman, Craig Revel Horwood and Bruno Tonioli.

Picasso show for family audiences

AN INTERACTIVE theatre show that offers audience members a chance to make art is being staged in Wolverhampton.

The Boy Who Bit Picasso is at Newhampton Arts Centre, Dunkley Street, on Saturday at 2.30pm. There will be performances for schools the day before. The show by Untied Artists and Oxford Playhouse brings artist Antony Penrose's children's book to life and combines storytelling, music and art. It tells the true tale of how a young boy – Penrose himself – became friends with the great Spanish artist.

Tickets are £5 for adults and £4 children on 01902 572090.

Singer puts back tour to the autumn

REBECCA Ferguson has rescheduled her Lady Sings the Blues tour, postponing her Birmingham concert for nearly ten months.

The X Factor finalist, who was runner-up to Matt Cardle in 2010, won fans for her husky vocals and was due to perform at the Symphony Hall on January 23. The third album by the 29-year-old Liverpudlian features her versions of classic songs by jazz singer Billie Holiday. But the concert has now been moved to November 2.

Miss Ferguson said: "I have made the decision to change the dates for my tour and focus on getting the (new) album ready."

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CHOICE

Eva Kor

The Girl Who Forgave the Nazis
(Channel 4, 8pm)
In the summer of 2015 former Auschwitz clerk Oskar Groening – then aged 93 – was charged as an accessory to the murder of more than 300,000 Jews at the infamous death camp. During the subsequent trial, 81-year-old Auschwitz survivor Eva Kor was called to give her testimony on the medical experiments she endured at the hands of Josef Mengele. Finding herself face-to-face with a Nazi for the first time in more than 70 years, Eva chose to embrace Groening, publicly forgiving him despite the role he played in the deaths of most of her family. This documentary explores the impact of her decision to absolve Groening, who was ultimately sentenced to four years in prison.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** James Martin: Home Comforts. **12.00** BBC News; Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **12.50** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** Tennis: Australian Open. **2.00** Live International Bowls. The World Indoor Championships. **4.30** Final Score. **5.10** Now You See It. **5.40** BBC News. **5.50** Regional Programme.

6.00 Pointless Celebrities. Soap stars Joe Swash and John Altman, Nick Pickard and Ali Bastian, Victoria Bush and Zaraah Abrahams, and Sharon Maughan and Tina Hobley take part in the unorthodox quiz show.

6.50 The Getaway Car. Brothers Mitz and Dee, husband-and-wife duo Charlie and Kate, best friends Chloe and Bethany, sisters Val and Babs and new couple Joseph and Karen tackle the Getaway Car circuit.

7.45 The Voice UK. The spinning-chair singing contest continues, as Paloma Faith, Boy George, Will.i.am and Ricky Wilson appraise the talents of another round of hopeful stars in the third of seven "blind auditions". This week, Waterloo Road actor Tom Milner seeks to impress the coaches as he takes to the stage, and Irene Alano-Rhodes, the former star of Miss Saigon, displays her vocal skills. Dubliner Lauren Lapsley-Browne hopes her unique voice will make an impact, and eccentric rocker Billy Black's performance sparks a conflict on the panel. Plus, Brooke Waddle, the daughter of former England footballer Chris Waddle, also takes to the stage.

9.05 Casualty. An office worker makes use of her stay in hospital to get her own back on her prankster colleague, and Noel mistakenly believes Big Mac saved him from a vicious mugger.

9.55 The National Lottery Live. Gaby Roslin presents as the all-important winning numbers are revealed.

10.05 BBC News; Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day. Highlights of the latest Premier League games; National Lottery Update.

11.55 Film: Lara Croft: Tomb Raider – The Cradle of Life. (2003) Action adventure sequel.

1.45 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.50** BBC News.

BBC2

6.05 Race to Super Bowl 50. (R) **6.55 Film:** Animal Farm. (1954) **8.05 Film:** Bye Bye Birdie. (1963) **9.55 Film:** Race to Witch Mountain. (2009) **11.30** Island Stories. **12.00** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **12.45** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **1.30 Film:** Day of the Evil Gun. (1968) Western, starring Glenn Ford. **3.00 Film:** 4 for Texas. (1963) Comedy Western, starring Dean Martin and Frank Sinatra. **4.50** Flog It! (R) **5.50** Victorian Bakers. (R)

6.50 Dad's Army. Sergeant Wilson is appointed manager of the Eastgate branch of the bank. Comedy, starring John Le Mesurier. (R)

7.20 Film: War Horse. (2011) A farmer's son forms a close bond with a horse he trains, but is forced to give the animal up when it is sold to the British army during the First World War. The horse passes through various owners on both sides as he travels across the battlefields of France, while the boy refuses to give up on being reunited. Steven Spielberg's drama based on Michael Morpurgo's book, starring Jeremy Irvine.

9.35 QI XL. Panellists Julia Zemiro, Matt Lucas and David Mitchell and Alan Davies compete, as Stephen Fry hosts an extended edition of the comedy quiz show. In this edition, the host meditates on matters medieval and macabre, and as usual, he poses questions that are so difficult, points are awarded for the answers he finds most interesting.

10.20 Insert Name Here. Jennifer Saunders, Romesh Ranganathan, Jessica Hynes and Suzannah Lipscomb join captains Richard Osman and Josh Widdicombe to answer questions about famous people who share a name. (R)

10.50 Live at the Apollo. Mock the Week host Dara O Briain comperes an evening of stand-up at London's Hammersmith Apollo, performing himself and introducing routines by guests Zoe Lyons and Paul Chowdhry. (R)

11.35 International Bowls. The World Indoor Championships. Action from the semi-final matches in the Open Singles tournament, at the Potters Leisure Resort in Hopton-on-Sea, Norfolk.

12.35 Film: Walkabout. (1971) **2.15 Film:** East of Sudan. (1964) **3.45** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Sooty. (R) **7.15** Super 4. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. **8.30** Scrambled!: Thunderbirds Are Go. **9.05** Scrambled!: The Tom & Jerry Show. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **11.15** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.15** ITV News; Weather. **12.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.25** Judge Rinder. (R) **2.25** Tipping Point. (R) **3.30** Doc Martin. (R) **4.30** The Martin Lewis Money Show. (R) **5.00** The Saturday Night Story. (R)

6.00 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.15 ITV News; Weather.

6.30 New You've Been Framed! More comical mishaps submitted for approval by viewers.

7.00 Ninja Warrior UK. Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara host the final heat, as competitors from across the UK test their strength, speed and courage in the obstacle-course challenge.

8.00 Take Me Out. Paddy McGuinness invites four more men to try their hands at winning a date with one of his 30 single ladies. This time, the would-be suitors are James, a caravan salesman from Skegness, London-based fireman David, Milton Keynes plumber Sam and Al, an American car fanatic and musician. Each of the men enters the "love lift" in the hope of impressing 30 single women and winning a date – but must first get the female participants to keep their lights on as a sign of approval. Plus, Paddy gives viewers a chance to catch up with last week's couples on the Isle of Fernandos.

9.15 The Jonathan Ross Show. US actor John Krasinski, actress and comedienne Catherine Tate and Scottish stand-up star Kevin Bridges join Jonathan in the studio, and Rudimental perform live.

10.15 ITV News; Weather.

10.30 Film: The Chronicles of Riddick. (2004) Sci-fi adventure sequel, with Vin Diesel.

12.35 Jackpot247. **3.00** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** International Snowdon Race. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** The Morning Line. **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** Frasier. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.25** The Simpsons. (R) **12.55** The Simpsons. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Ascot and Haydock Park. **4.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.30** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.35** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.05 Come Dine with Me. It is the final day of the competition in Llanelli and teaching assistant Ainsley wants to educate her guests, while serving up an authentic Russian-themed dinner party. (R)

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Great Canal Journeys. Timothy West and Prunella Scales go in search of the lost route between London and the sea, which has not been fully open for over 200 years and requires four different boats to traverse now. They leave the Thames at Teddington and travel through the Surrey and Sussex countryside before arriving at Guildford, and a canal-side theatre where they have both regularly performed. The final leg of the trip brings them to the River Arun before reaching the English Channel. (R)

8.00 The Girl Who Forgave the Nazis. Documentary investigating the wider impact of Holocaust survivor Eva Kor's decision to forgive Oskar Groening, the 93-year-old former Nazi who once worked as a clerk at Auschwitz.

9.00 Film: Oblivion. (2013) Premiere. A repairman is assigned to salvage the remaining resources from Earth, which has been left a devastated wasteland after a war with an alien race. He discovers a human survivor on the surface of the planet, an encounter that exposes secrets from the past that threaten the future of the human race. Sci-fi adventure, starring Tom Cruise and Morgan Freeman.

11.30 Film: Priest. (2011) Fantasy thriller, with Paul Bettany.

1.10 Hollyoaks. (R) **3.15** Undercover Boss Canada. (R) **4.05** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. (R) **5.00** Deal or No Deal. (R) **5.50** How I Met Your Mother. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **8.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **9.30** The Saturday Show. **11.30** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.25** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.25** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.25** Pets Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **3.25** Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud 2. (R) **4.20** Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud 2. (R) **5.20** 5 News Weekend. **5.25** Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords. (R)

6.20 Ice Road Truckers. Lisa and Todd venture onto a route that has not been used before, while a crash threatens to bring Alex's season to an end. (R)

7.05 World War II in Colour. This edition looks at Hitler's plans to push his forces into the Soviet Union, beginning with the launch of Operation Barbarossa in the summer of 1941. (R)

8.00 World War II Battlefield Recovery. A four-man team of excavation experts sets out to retrieve Second World War relics from the battlefields and war-zones of the Eastern Front, telling the stories of fallen soldiers by examining their remains.

9.00 The Championship: Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's matches in the second tier of English football, including Queens Park Rangers v Wolverhampton Wanderers at Loftus Road, Birmingham City v Ipswich Town at St Andrew's, Brighton & Hove Albion v Huddersfield Town at the Amex Stadium and Leeds United v Bristol City at Elland Road.

10.00 Goal Rush: Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present all the goals from League One and League Two, where fixtures included Burton Albion v Shrewsbury Town and Bristol Rovers v Plymouth Argyle.

10.30 Celebrity Big Brother. Highlights of the famous housemates' past 24 hours under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, as they try to get used to living alongside one another.

11.30 Lip Sync Battle UK: Rufus Hound v Jorgie Porter. Melanie Brown and Professor Green present the musical game show as comedian Rufus Hound and actress Jorgie Porter go head to head lip-synching to a hit song. (R)

12.00 SuperCasino. **3.10** Celebrity Big Brother. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Don't Tell the Bride **8.00** Top Gear **9.05 Film:** Looper (2012) **10.55** Russell Howard's Good News **11.25** Family Guy **1.35** Siblings **2.05 Film:** Tropic Thunder (2008) **3.45** Glastonbury: The Udder Side **4.00** Close

BBC Four
7.00 Stories from the Dark Earth: Meet the Ancestors Revisited **8.00** Shipwrecks: Britain's Sunken History **9.00** The Young Montalbano **10.55** Music Moguls: Masters of Pop **11.55** Duets at the BBC **12.55** Danny Baker's Great Album Showdown **1.55** Top of the Pops **3.20** Sounds of the Eighties **3.50** Close

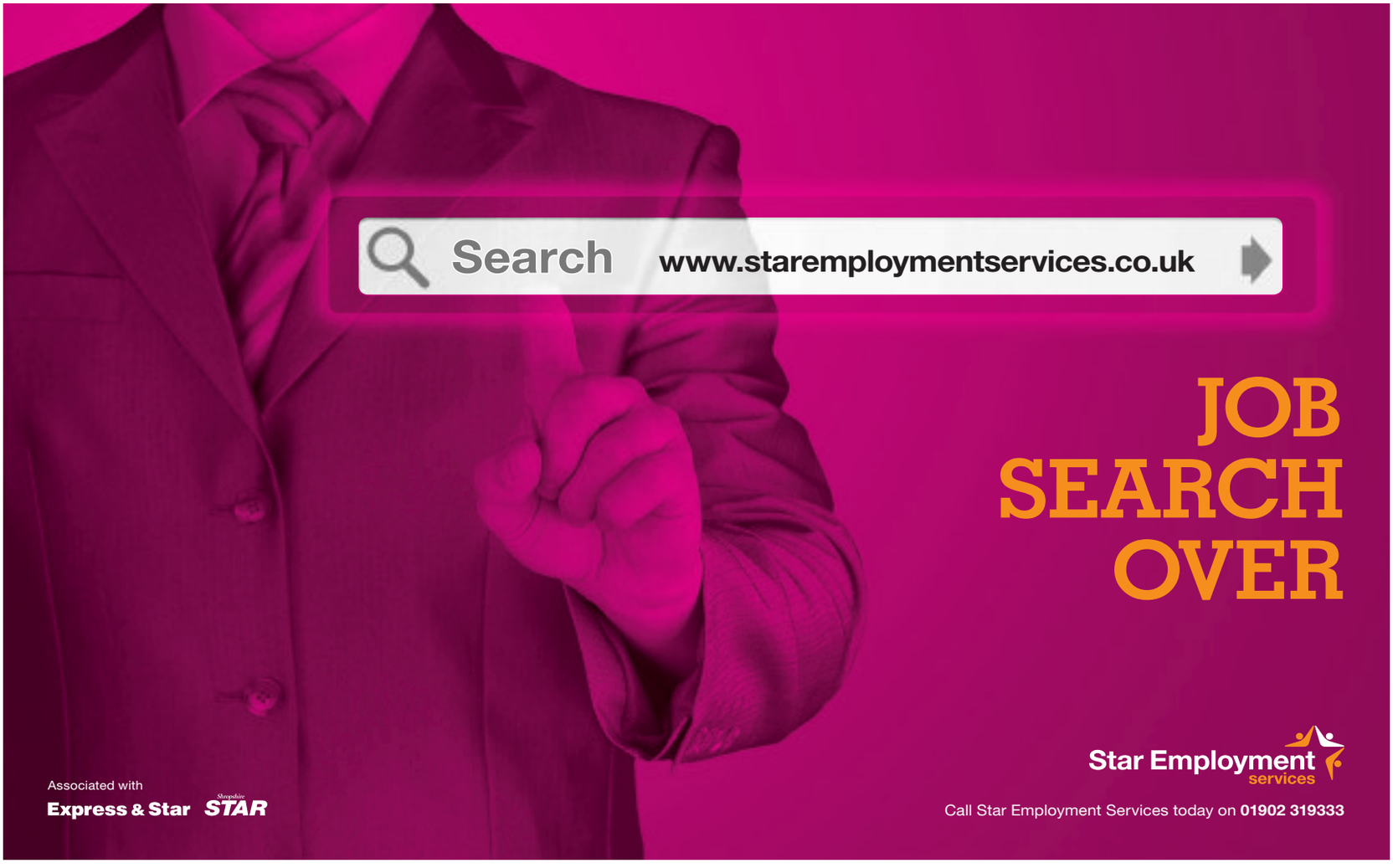
ITV2
11.05 Ninja Warrior UK **12.05** Celebrity Catchphrase **1.05** Scorpion **2.05 Film:** Small Soldiers (1998) **4.20** Minion Madness **4.40 Film:** Hotel Transylvania (2012) **6.25 Film:** Jurassic Park III (2001) **8.15** Beowulf: Return to the Shieldlands **9.15** Take Me Out – The Gossip **10.15 Film:** American Pie Presents: The Naked Mile (2006) **12.25 Film:** Not Another Teen Movie (2001) **2.15** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.40** Teleshopping **5.40** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3
11.35 A Touch of Frost **1.50** The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes **4.00** Midsomer Murders **10.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **12.00** Marchlands **1.00** The Return of Sherlock Holmes **2.00** Man About the House **2.25** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4
11.30 Storage Wars: Texas **1.25** Storage Wars **2.20 Film:** The Sting (1973) **5.00 Film:** Apache (1954) **6.50 Film:** The Hanging Tree (1959) **9.00 Film:** Last Man Standing (1996) **11.05 Film:** The Kingdom (2007) **1.20** Inside Manchester City **2.15** Ax Men **3.00** Teleshopping

E4
11.30 The Goldbergs: At the Movies **2.00 Film:** The Core (2003) **4.35** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** This Means War (2012) **11.00** Gogglebox **12.50** Virtually Famous **1.40** The Inbetweeners **2.45** The IT Crowd **3.35** Charmed **4.15** Revenge

Film4
11.00 Biggles (1986) **1.00** The Princess Diaries (2001) **3.15** The War of the Worlds (1953) **5.00** Parental Guidance (2012) **7.05** Napoleon Dynamite (2004) **8.55** Youth Interview Special **9.00** Red Eye (2005) **10.35** Mindscape (2013) **12.30** Blood and Chocolate (2007) **2.25** Oki's Movie (2010) **4.00** Close



CHOICE

James May

James May's Cars of the People (BBC2, 9pm)
New series. The former Top Gear presenter examines how the car industry in Germany and Japan blossomed following the Second World War, becoming manufacturing giants that far outstripped the Allied nations that had defeated them. He test drives some of the vehicles Germany and Japan produced during the post-war period, as well as an assortment of other classic cars, including E-Types and Mustangs. He also reveals the sad tale of the Austin Allegro, a vehicle that had a devastating impact on the British car industry.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **2.15** Flog It! (R) **3.00** The Truth About Sugar. (R) **4.00** Regional Programme. **4.30** Songs of Praise. **5.05** BBC News. **5.20** Regional Programme. **5.30** Countryfile.

6.30 Attenborough & the Giant Dinosaur. The story of how more than 220 dinosaur bones were found in the Argentinean desert, which were found to have come from a previously undiscovered species, which is the largest land dwelling animal known to have existed. David Attenborough visits the archaeological dig and a laboratory where the remains are being cleaned and analysed with lead scientist Dr Diego Pol and evolutionary biologist Ben Garrod, and meets animators, model-makers, paleontologists and anatomy experts who are working to reconstruct what the 37 metre-long creature would have looked like.

7.30 Still Open All Hours. David Jason stars as Granville in this follow-up to Open All Hours, now running the shop with his son Leroy after inheriting the business from Arkwright.

8.00 Call the Midwife. Barbara faces the biggest test of her career, Nurse Crane learns to speak Spanish, and Sister Evangelina helps a woman with breastfeeding, leading to unforeseen consequences.

9.00 War & Peace. Natasha encounters temptation during Andrei's absence, Countess Rostova and Anna both try to find wealthy wives for their sons, and Pierre grows frustrated with married life.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the day's two Premier League fixtures, which were Arsenal v Chelsea at the Emirates Stadium and Everton v Swansea City at Goodison Park.

11.30 Film: Private Peaceful. (2012) Premiere. Drama based on Michael Morpurgo's novel, starring Jack O'Connell.

1.05 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.10** BBC News.

BBC2

6.30 The A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **7.15** Monty Don's Italian Gardens. (R) **8.15** Countryfile. (R) **9.15** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **10.45** James Martin – Home Comforts at Christmas. (R) **11.30** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Tennis: Australian Open Highlights. **2.00** Live International Bowls. The World Indoor Championships. **5.15** Ski Sunday.

6.00 Film: Real Steel. (2011) In the future, boxing matches between eight-foot robots are one of the world's biggest sporting draws. A washed-up human prizefighter finds an abandoned android and sets about restoring it to become a potential champion, a project that reunites him with his estranged 11-year-old son. Sci-fi drama, starring Hugh Jackman, Dakota Goyo and Evangeline Lilly. Edited for daytime broadcast.

8.00 Dragons' Den. Evan Davis gives another group of would-be entrepreneurs the chance to impress panelists Deborah Meaden, Nick Jenkins, Peter Jones, Touker Suleyman and Sarah Willingham with their business ideas. Products featured in the show include a portable drum kit that does not need drums and an inflatable tanning tent.

9.00 James May's Cars of the People. New series. The former Top Gear presenter examines how the car industry in Germany and Japan blossomed following the Second World War, while Britain's own manufacturers struggled.

10.00 Film: Blood Diamond. (2006) Smuggler Danny Archer ends up in prison in war-torn Sierra Leone in 1999, where he meets Solomon, a Mende fisherman separated from his family by guerrillas. Danny pledges to help the desperate man rescue his son, who has been forcibly conscripted as a child soldier, in return for a rare pink diamond that Solomon had hidden away before his capture. Action thriller, starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Djimon Hounsou and Jennifer Connelly.

12.10 Film: Heist. (2001) A thief is blackmailed into pulling off a robbery, and also suspects his wife is planning to leave him. David Mamet's thriller, with Gene Hackman, Danny DeVito and Rebecca Pidgeon. **1.55** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.50** Holby City. (R) **3.50** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Sooty. (R) **7.15** Super 4. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. **8.30** Scrambled!: Bear Grylls Survival School. **9.05** Scrambled!: The Tom & Jerry Show. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.30** ITV News; Weather. **12.40** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.40** River Monsters. (R) **2.10** Ninja Warrior UK. (R) **3.15 Film:** On Her Majesty's Secret Service. (1969) James Bond adventure, starring George Lazenby.

6.00 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.15 ITV News; Weather.

6.30 Planet's Got Talent. New series. The best and worst clips from the global Got Talent franchise, featuring blindfolded sword-swallowing and a group of stuntmen crashing a bus.

7.00 Beowulf: Return to the Shieldlands. A new leader is to be chosen as Herot faces being torn apart by civil war between the tribes, leaving Rheda faced with the possibility of fighting to remain in power.

8.00 Endeavour. The detective is approached by a former mentor from his college days, who asks Morse to ensure the safety of his wife. However, the assignment leaves him contemplating his future with the police force. Meanwhile, a murder in the world of fashion stirs up old gangland conflicts in the city. Shaun Evans stars. Last in the series.

10.00 ITV News; Weather.

10.15 The Day Hitler Died. Documentary exploring the fuhrer's final hours in his Berlin bunker as Russian forces closed in, featuring previously unseen interviews with eyewitnesses, recorded in 1948.

11.15 Perspectives: Bruce Forsyth on Sammy Davis Jr. The veteran entertainer explores the life and work of the US singer, dancer and actor.

12.15 Jackpot247. **3.00** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** The King of Queens. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) **1.30** Location, Location, Location. (R) **2.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **3.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **3.30** The Simpsons. (R) **4.00** The Simpsons. (R) **4.30** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. **5.30** Channel 4 News.

6.00 Film: Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian. (2009) The living exhibits at New York's Museum of Natural History are shipped to Washington's Smithsonian Institution – along with the artefact that brought them to life in the first place. Nightwatchman Larry tries to retrieve it, only to find the contents of the world's largest museum have been reanimated, including a pharaoh determined to take over the world. Fantasy comedy sequel, starring Ben Stiller.

8.00 Walking the Himalayas. Levison Wood and guide Binod Pariyar face a 30-mile trek through the jungles of Eastern Nepal, with no roads and few people to tell them they are heading in the right direction. Their journey comes to an end in Bhutan, a country rarely visited by foreigners, where they visit a holy mountain, join the celebrations for the king's birthday, and listen to local children's tales of yeti. Last in the series.

9.00 Deutschland 83. The bug in Linda's desk is discovered, and Moritz is given two options – persuade the secretary to defect or kill her. Alex turns to Tischbier following an argument with his father.

10.00 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown. Sean Lock and Rob Beckett compete against Jon Richardson and Cariad Lloyd in the comedy panel show, while Sam Simmons helps out in Dictionary Corner. (R)

11.05 Film: 48 Hrs. (1982) A hard-bitten cop temporarily releases a fast-talking criminal from prison to help him track down two escaped fugitives. Comedy thriller, starring Nick Nolte and Eddie Murphy.

12.50 Embarrassing Bodies: Back to the Clinic. (R) **1.45** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.05** Undercover Boss USA. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.45** Tickety Toc. (R) **6.55** Zack and Quack. (R) **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.25** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.35** Little Princess. (R) **7.50** Pip Ahoy! (R) **8.05** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.35** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.50** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **9.05** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **9.20** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.35** LazyTown. (R) **9.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.30** The Championship: Football League Tonight. (R) **11.30** Goal Rush: Football League Tonight. (R) **12.00** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.05 Film:** Drillbit Taylor. (2008) Comedy, starring Owen Wilson. **3.05 Film:** Space Camp. (1986) Children's sci-fi adventure, starring Kate Capshaw. **5.05 Film:** Labyrinth. (1986) Fantasy adventure, starring Jennifer Connelly and David Bowie.

7.05 Film: The Wedding Planner. (2001) A single woman who organises weddings for a living is swept off her feet by a dashing doctor, but her dreams of him becoming her husband suffer a setback when she discovers she has already been hired to organise his marriage to another woman. Romantic comedy, starring Jennifer Lopez, Matthew McConaughey, Bridgette Wilson-Sampras, Justin Chambers and Joanna Gleason. Edited for language.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. A chance to catch up with the latest events inside the house as the celebrities cope with living under constant surveillance, with all the arguments and alliances, as well as the revelations in the diary room.

10.00 Celebrity Botched Up Bodies. Leading surgeons repair household names damaged by cosmetic surgery.

10.55 Film: Mr & Mrs Smith. (2005) Married assassins are hired to kill each other – a situation that restores some much-needed excitement to their relationship. Comedy adventure, with Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie.

1.10 SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. **3.10** Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **5.45** Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great TV Mistakes **7.10** Pop's Greatest Dance Crazes **7.40** The Voice UK **9.00 Film:** Die Hard with a Vengeance (1995) **11.00** Family Guy **11.45** American Dad! **12.30** Siblings **1.00** Adam Pearson: Freak Show **2.00** True North: Keepin 'Er Country **2.40** London Fashion Week: Grace Victory's Top Picks **3.05** London Fashion Week: Abby Clancy's Top Picks **3.30** Emergency Rescue Down Under **4.00** Close

BBC Four
7.00 India's Frontier Railways **8.00** Empire of the Tsars: Romanov Russia with Lucy Worsley **9.00** Len Goodman's Dancing Feet: The British Ballroom Story **10.00** Storyville: The Great Gangster Film Fraud **11.25** The Mystery of Murder: A Horizon Guide **12.25** The Brain with David Eagleman **1.25** Blink: A Horizon Guide to the Senses **2.25** Sounds of the Eighties **2.55** Danny Baker's Great Album Showdown **3.55** Close

ITV2
11.55 Take Me Out **1.10** Take Me Out – The Gossip **2.15 Film:** The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas (2000) **4.00 Film:** The Mummy (1999) **6.20 Film:** Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore (2010) **8.00 Film:** Skyfall (2012) **10.55 Film:** The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift (2006) **1.00** Reality Bites **1.45** Planet's Funniest Animals **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV3
12.55 The Return of Sherlock Holmes **2.00** Midsomer Murders **8.00** Me and My Guide Dog **9.00** Caroline Quentin's National Parks **10.00** The Kindness of Strangers **11.35 Film:** The Hours (2002) **1.45** Secret Smile **3.00** On the Buses **3.30** Heartbeat **5.10** Rising Damp

ITV4
12.20 Film: The 'Burbs (1989) **2.25 Film:** Smokey and the Bandit (1977) **4.15 Film:** The Sting (1973) **7.00** The Classic Car Show **8.00** River Monsters **9.00 Film:** Exit Wounds (2001) **11.10 Film:** Sleepers (1996) **2.05** Ax Men **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4
5.00 The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** Tattoo Fixers **11.00** Rude Tube **12.10** The Inbetweeners **1.15** The IT Crowd **2.15** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **3.00** How I Met Your Mother **3.40** Hollyoaks

Film4
11.00 Titanic (1953) **1.00** Bride Wars (2009) **2.50** The Last Mimzy (2007) **4.40** Carry On Behind (1975) **6.30** Anna Karenina (2012) **9.00** Bringing Down the House (2003) **11.05** Splice (2009)

PICK OF THE WEEK

FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Willed to Kill, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A homicide detective must face up to her own troubled childhood when a serial killer develops a twisted obsession with her. Thriller, with Sarah Jane Morris and Michael Riley. (2012)

TUESDAY
Escape from Polygamy, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A widowed mother joins a religious cult and goes to live in their remote compound, where her teenage daughter falls in love with the son of the group's leader. When the preacher demands that the girl marry him, the two youngsters plan to escape together. Drama, starring Haley Lu Richardson, Jack Falahee and Mary McCormack. (2013)

WEDNESDAY
The Gourmet Detective: A Healthy Place to Die, Channel 5, 3.15pm
Charming culinary expert Henry Ross is invited to give a speech at a food conference at a luxury resort, but when a journalist guest goes missing, and later turns up dead, Henry once again finds himself joining forces with no-nonsense police detective Maggie Price to solve the crime. Detective comedy sequel, starring Dylan Neal and Brooke Burns. (2015)

Fatal Attraction, Friday, Channel 4, 12.55am

THURSDAY
My Daughter Must Live, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A woman discovers that her daughter needs a liver transplant, but medical tests reveal that her husband is not the girl's father. She is forced to track down her former lover, who was last seen fleeing for his life having crossed a corrupt businessman, but the quest jeopardises both her marriage and her life. Thriller, starring Joelle Carter and Madeleine Martin. (2014)

FRIDAY
Fatal Attraction, Channel 4, 12.55am
A married lawyer has a one-night stand with a business associate while his wife and children are out of town. He hopes to keep his infidelity a secret, but she is determined to continue the relationship, and begins obsessively stalking him and his unsuspecting family. Thriller, starring Michael Douglas, Glenn Close and Anne Archer. (1987)

New series serves up a simple yet tasty treat

You just can't keep a good woman down, which perhaps explains why Mary Berry is back on the box this week – not just once, but twice.

She will be judging, alongside regular cohort Paul Hollywood, the efforts of a variety of famous faces who have agreed to take part in the new run of The Great Sport Relief Bake Off, which begins on Wednesday.

But before then, we can catch her in action in this offering, one that takes us back to basics.

Many TV cooks have, over the years, attempted to teach the nation to do more than just open a tin of beans, and they've done it with varying degrees of success. We reckon Mary will turn out to be the best of the lot.

Rather than going through such mundane tasks as boiling an egg or cooking pasta the right way, she offers handy practical tips on how to prepare simple but tasty and quick recipes that will keep everyone at home happy – and even serve you well if you're organising a dinner party for family or friends.

Commissioning editor Tom Edwards says: "Mary is one of the ultimate icons of cookery programming. It's a delight to serve her latest offering to a BBC Two audience.

"This series connects with something that is essential to Mary – delicious food, made foolproof."

Sadly, Mary's TV career hasn't been foolproof of late. Hollywood attempted to take the Bake off to, er, Hollywood, when he made The American Baking Competition in 2013, but it bombed, never to rise again.

Mary followed in his footsteps late in 2015 with The Great Holiday Baking Show, which aped our own offering as closely as it could. It should have had 'success' written all over it, but instead it received the same kind of reception as Hollywood would give a tart with a soggy bottom – it lost almost a million viewers in a week.

Despite this setback, Mary is still keen on bringing her homespun wisdom to as many people as possible – and it seems that, if she is attracted to a project, she will grab it with both hands. It's an approach she credits to a three-month spell she had in hospital after contracting polio as a child; she claims that being away from her family toughened her up and inspired her to make the most of every opportunity.

Mary will turn 81 in March, an age when many people are slowing down and enjoying their retirement. Instead, she heads back into the kitchen – something that delights her army of fans.

In the first edition of this series, she regales viewers with memories of her life, family and friends while demonstrating how to prepare five dishes suitable for special days and celebrations, including salmon fillets with herbs and red pepper and a side dish of spiralised vegetables as well as an indulgent treat of lobster tails with aioli and asparagus.

And if you forget the instructions, as you might have already guessed, Mary has written a book to accompany the series, which is published on Thursday.

Mary Berry's Foolproof Cooking, Monday, BBC2, 8.30pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Crashing
Channel 4, 10pm
Life in the dilapidated hospital rumbles on, and we're enjoying every minute of watching it pan out. Phoebe Waller-Bridge's sitcom is an absolute delight, focusing on a group of people who have set up home in a disused building, paying minimal rent while attempting to prevent it becoming derelict. It's a great premise, and one that allows a real mixed bag of characters to take up residence. Among them is resident Irish curry chef Anthony, who this week organises an evening of spicy delights. Unfortunately, his efforts look set to be ignored as the event descends into chaos that leaves not just the fruits of his labour on the floor. Meanwhile, relationships come to the fore as Fred introduces his housemates to his new boyfriend.

TUESDAY
The Mad World of Donald Trump
Channel 4, 9pm
He's already a multi-billionaire tycoon, but now Donald Trump is out to become the President of the USA - and by extension, the most powerful person on the planet. His campaign is already one of the most controversial the US has ever seen, complete with plans to ban Muslims from entering the States and to construct a wall to keep out Mexican immigrants. However, his promise to 'make America great again' has clearly resonated with many voters, and he's currently leading the polls for the Republican presidential nomination. Here, Matt Frei tries to uncover the man behind the brand, exploring Trump's colourful past and asking if he really could make it all the way to the White House.

WEDNESDAY
Holocaust Memorial Day
BBC2, 7pm
With more than 200 survivors in attendance, a unique commemoration at Guildhall, London marks Holocaust Memorial Day and remembers those persecuted and murdered by the Nazis, and those who died in later genocides. The ceremony includes personal testimony, music and poetry, with actors Sheila Hancock, Robert Lindsay, Kevin Whately and Freddie Fox taking part. Plus, the internationally renowned choir of Clare College Cambridge performs, and acclaimed violinist Jennifer Pike plays the theme from Schindler's List.

The Great Sport Relief Bake Off, Wednesday, BBC1, 8.30pm

The Great Sport Relief Bake Off
BBC1, 8.30pm
The celebrity edition of The Great British Bake Off returns, with each episode featuring four celebrities as they tackle three challenges set by judges Paul Hollywood and Mary Berry. Mel Giedroyc hosts the first edition, as comedian Jason Manford, Eastenders actress Maddy Hill, ex-England goalkeeper David James, and business woman and wife of the Prime Minister Samantha Cameron bake for Sport Relief in the Bake Off tent. For the signature challenge, they must make 24 canapes using rough puff pastry made from scratch, before creating Paris Brest, a French pastry confection, in the technical.

THURSDAY
Britain's Bloody Crown
Channel 5, 8pm
Historian Dan Jones's part-dramatised journey through the War of the Roses reaches its thrilling conclusion tonight. At the centre of the story is Margaret Beaufort, a woman who could be described as being the power behind the throne. She was the mother of Henry Tudor, the man who defeated Richard III at the battle of Bosworth in 1485, and who was eventually crowned as Henry VII. Jones begins Mary's story in January 1457 when, at 13, two months after her husband's death, she gave birth to Henry, and set about doing whatever was necessary to protect her son and keep in her the monarch's good books. But it was her manipulation of certain events, enabling Henry to take control of the country, that remains Mary's biggest achievement.

FRIDAY
MOTD Live: The FA Cup
BBC1, 7.30pm
Derby County v Manchester United (Kick-off 7.55pm). Gary Lineker presents coverage of the match from the fourth round of the famous competition, which takes place at the iPro Stadium. The Rams – chasing promotion back to the Premier League for the first time since the 2007/08 season – will fancy their chances against the Red Devils, who have come under fire this season for playing negative football and suffering some shock defeats.

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BRAIN GYM No.361

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.

14	26	12	9	■	4	10	8	18	15	20	2	24
8	■	16	■	■	20	■	■	21	■	7	■	8
4	■	2	15	20	7	25	8	4	■	9	■	17
1	24	21	■	■	■	15	■	■	11	8	12	21
21	■	1	■	21	6	20	9	■	■	2	■	9
■	8	5	20	3	■	10	■	23	21	9	9	16
■	■	■	■	4	■	12	■	20	■	■	■	■
18	10	20 I	19	21	■	18	■	11	26	8	9	■
1	■	7 N	■	■	23	26	13	21	■	5	■	5
10	8	17	9	■	■	26	■	■	■	18	21	8
18	■	1	■	26	11	12	20	22	1	21	■	10
12	■	24	■	18	■	■	12	■	■	10	■	10
21	14	21	7	9	17	1	12	■	10	21	12	16

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
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6	19
7 N	20 I
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
U	E	G	R	W	Z	H	D	F	C	J	Q	O
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
A	B	S	N	I	V	X	M	K	Y	T	P	L

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

6 & 7Ac. Distress call from deprived fishermen, we hear! (4,3,5)
7. See 6 Across
9. A kind of driver for the propeller (5)
10 & 13Dn. Mail intended for London? (7,7)
12. Transport for one who wishes to retire (8-3)
14. Disease won't upset this resort (7,4)
18. It's at no different boarding place (7)
19, 1Dn. & 20Dn. Their job isn't to prevent daylight robbery! (5-8)
21. Manage to get through the exercise (5)
22. See 11 Down

Down

1. See 19 Across
2. Expose the facts about meat (6)
3. Potter needs it - that's a hint (3)
4. Successfully handling a kind of saw (6)
5. It annually contains an astronomical amount of information (7)
8. A trial's disrupted by cowboys' equipment (7)
11 & 22Ac. Set out for the mountains, if you have one! (4,3,7)
13. See 10 Across
15. Pay for the bench (6)
16. Removes moisture from the arenas, we hear (6)
17. Talks in church at services (5)
20. See 19 Across

■	1	■	2	■	3	■	■	■	4	■	5	■
6							■	7				
■		■		■		■	8	■		■		■
9					■	10						
■		■		■	11	■		■		■		■
■	■	12										
■	13	■	■	■		■		■	■	■		■
14			15						16		■	■
■		■		■		■		■		■	17	■
18							■	19				
■		■		■		■	20	■		■		■
21					■	22						
■		■		■	■	■		■		■		■

Quick Clues:

Across

6. Generous (7)
7. Hoist (5)
9. Fashion (5)
10. Arrange (7)
12. Dishonour (11)
14. In brackets (11)
18. Twist (7)
19. Horse (5)
21. Portion (5)
22. Sorrow (7)

Down

1. Smaller (5)
2. Deny (6)
3. Whim (3)
4. Dictator (6)
5. Quibble (7)
8. Violinist (7)
11. Authors (7)
13. Pithy (7)
15. Allure (6)
16. Set (6)
17. Poetry (5)
20. Beam (3)

Sudoku

		6	4		1		5	
1						6		9
	7	9		6			4	1
7					4		8	
2				7	6			3
	3		5					
9				1			7	8
3		8		4				2
	6				9	1		

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

9	5	3	4	7	1	8	6	2
8	6	7	9	3	2	5	4	1
4	2	1	6	5	8	9	7	3
2	1	5	8	6	4	3	9	7
7	4	9	2	1	3	6	5	8
6	3	8	5	9	7	2	1	4
3	9	4	7	2	6	1	8	5
5	7	2	1	8	9	4	3	6
1	8	6	3	4	5	7	2	9

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 6 Grained; 7 Auric; 9 Ace; 10 Revolting; 12 Misanthrope; 15 Sit-down meal; 17 Take place; 19 Dot; 21 Lease; 22 Hastier. Down: 1 Brace; 2 Tip; 3 Mete; 4 Cut-throat; 5 Kidnaps; 8 Bottom; 11 Wild beast; 13 As well; 14 Minaret; 16 Moses; 18 Char; 20 Sty. QUICK - Across: 6 Conceal; 7 Tease; 9 Fee; 10 Dejection; 12 Ups-and-downs; 15 Yellow fever; 17 Occupying; 19 Elk; 21 Under; 22 Awkward. Down: 1 Cover; 2 Act; 3 Base; 4 Destroyer; 5 Astound; 8 Meddle; 11 Applauded; 13 Always; 14 Descend; 16 Alert; 18 News; 20 Own.

Thinking space

Quiz

1. What, in film-making, is a blimp?
2. Between which two countries is the Brenner Pass?
3. In which century did printer William Caxton live?
4. Who was the Muse of history in Greek mythology?
5. What is the international car registration for Denmark?
6. In which year was the Eiffel Tower erected?
7. What is the term for a person who makes arrows?
8. In which country are one hundred grosz worth one zloty?
9. What was the real name of Al Jolson?
10. What sort of animal is a kob?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Pax; 2 Pickwick Papers; 3 12th August; 4 Offenbach; 5 Subscriber Trunk Dialling; 6 Jean Cocteau; 7 A breed of domestic fowl; 8 Sibelius; 9 Japan; 10 Pacific.

Niner: OBSTINACY

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

7517 gives a song,
67894 gives a dance,
342219 gives a game.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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MNA Media

Comfortable and spacious interior with choice of seating options

Round off the meal with a delicious sweet

The Manor House of Whttington, formerly the Whittington Pub, on the A449

Camembert with rosemary and garlic

To the Manor House born and fed with service fit for royalty

STANDING outside The Manor House at Whittington I really felt I should be wearing twinset and pearls, not jeans and a jumper.

Lisa Williams reports

It looks rather grand and posh from the outside as well as cosy and inviting. The exterior gives little hint as to what is inside.

I was expecting a quaint, simple sleek interior. But what is actually waiting is a modern, contemporary, clean finish mixing a touch of traditional style with a more quirky and eclectic look.

The Grade-I listed building dates back to 1310 when it was built by Sir William de Whittington and apparently welcomed royalty during its historic past. It reopened last November after a major refurbishment of what was once The Whittington Inn.

Thankfully the bright yellow exterior has long gone as is the tired and dated interior. It's been lovingly restored, with a £1.5 million price tag.

My boyfriend and I, along with both sets of parents, ventured in. The bright, glowing flames from an open fire were the first thing we saw. The bar area is airy and light.

Our table was comfy and intimate but a little bit too near the kitchen as we kept hearing the chef shout 'service', but it turns out this was also a good thing as we could see the food coming out and the pizzas being made. All of which looked scrumptious.

It had only been open a week so we were prepared for teething problems. There were a few, I'll get to them later.

We sat taking in the menu. The online version was not the same. My parents were ready for a turkey dinner and a risotto dish neither of which featured. We quizzed our waitress, Stacey, who went to find out what was going on. Apparently it's the wrong menu online. Ooops! Hopefully this is now resolved. Most was the same though so it was no great drama.

Charm

Service was slow at times but the staff, who were friendly and lovely, were probably finding their feet.

Drinks arrived, orders were taken and we sat back to take in the new decor. Rich burgundy and teal added a bright touch to the classic olde worlde charm.

For starters we'd gone for a couple of Camembert sharers with great hunks of toasted sourdough bread and a sticky onion jam on the side. It was gorgeously gooey.

For the mains I'd gone for a pretty basic pizza, less is more. Marinated buffalo mozzarella, mozzarella, sun-dried tomatoes and basil on the best base I've ever tasted.

Mum had gone for the butternut squash tart. She loved the flavours but the potato salad was a little dry with no dressing. Dad had the Josper roasted half chicken, in beer, thyme and malt butter and enjoyed it.

The fish and chips were also a success as the boyfriend's mum tucked in. For the boyfriend and his father burgers arrived, great stacks of chargrilled, perfectly pink in the middle. But. . . the burgers were cold. They were swiftly and politely replaced with plenty of apologies.

Some of us saved room for dessert. I was defeated but two portions of the dark chocolate and raspberry brownie were ordered.

Full, sated and happy, we all agreed we would return soon. While the food does need a teeny tiny bit of improving, the four stars go to the staff .

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*at extra cost

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Freephone 0800 389 1281
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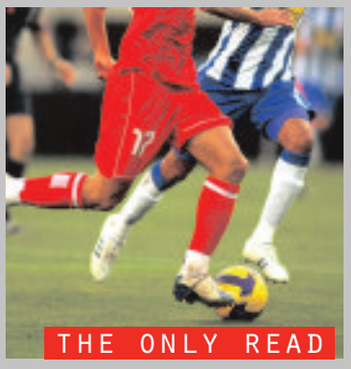

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An Express & Star supplement Express & Star

Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

Making your home more attractive

There's a range of things you can do to make your home more attractive when you decide to put it on the market, from reorganising the furniture to tidying the garden.

A welcoming kitchen is one of the biggest attractions for potential house buyers. Whether you have a comfortable family oriented meeting place or a stylish singletons galley, the kitchen is most often the heart of the home.

Regardless of your budget, there are a number of simple ways you can maximise its attraction to buyers and speed up the sale of your house: Replacing your entire kitchen to attract buyers is not always necessary. Often the cost of installing a new kitchen outweighs the value it will add to your asking price. Like all home decor, the kitchen will still be subject to personal taste, so if it does not appeal to your buyers they will refit it upon moving in anyway.

If your kitchen is very dated, simple changes can make all the difference. Painting the cupboard doors, replacing handles or taps and re-grouting the tiles can all give a new lease of life.

Clean and de-clutter! Viewers may even look in your cupboards so ensure shelves are cleaned and all contents are organised. Any pet bowls should go outside as potential buyers may not be animal lovers so could be put off by the sight of half eaten pet food.

If necessary, box up items you don't use very often and put them in storage. If your cupboards and drawers are overflowing, buyers will assume there is little storage space, which can be off-putting. Keep work surfaces as clear as possible to enhance the appearance of cleanliness.

Flowers or pot pourri on window sills create a welcoming atmosphere and add a fresh fragrance.

Using these simple but effective ideas will ensure your kitchen looks appealing and entices potential buyers into a prompt decision!

No matter how big your home, it's important to maximise the rooms to create a sense of space, especially if you are trying to sell your property.

Here are some tips to make any home feel more spacious:

Mirrors are great for making your home feel more spacious. In small areas large mirrors can be used to make the room look longer or wider. They are especially useful in hallways where they can be used to manipulate the perception of space by reflecting light and colour.

Having too big a dining table in your dining room can make the area shrink. To maximize space, put up roman blinds rather than curtains, and plan your storage carefully so that clutter is out of sight. This is especially important in the bedroom, because the less clutter you see, the more relaxing the room will be.

Match neutral colours on the walls with similar flooring in downstairs spaces to give the impression of space flowing from one room to another. Bright shades of carpet or distracting patterns are to be avoided.

If you follow all of these ideas then you are sure to achieve the maximum use of space in your home, and in turn attain the highest possible price for it.

Gardens are too often forgotten in the race to make the most of a property, but their condition can sometimes be the deciding factor on value. It's a common-held belief that the decision on whether or not to buy a property is made within the first few moments of viewing it.

The state of the front garden is therefore a prime consideration for anyone choosing to sell their home. Drive-by desirability is all important as first impressions really do count. Make sure your front garden is neat, tidy and easily maintained. Hanging baskets and flower troughs establish the cared-for look without creating too much work. Any lawn areas should be neatly trimmed, and trees cut back and controlled. A well-presented front door, with pots alongside it, goes a long way towards generating a sense of welcome.

The back of the house is arguably even more important than the front, as this is where the most work is likely to lie. Today's busy lifestyle means the majority of people don't have much time to spend on gardening, so creating some low maintenance areas is invaluable. Decking, paving and woodchips can be used to differentiate areas of the garden and simplify them. Any trees and hedges should be kept under control and fences maintained.

Choosing the right agent for your home

Selecting which estate agency to sell your home (your biggest asset) can be worrying for anyone. You can make your decision more straightforward by following a few simple rules:

The first thing to do when searching for a quality estate agent is to check that they belong to a professional body like the NAEA. This is because all our members have to complete an accredited qualification on estate agency and are bound by strict rules. Selecting an agent who is one of our members will ensure your peace of mind as they offer a solid understanding of the market, and furthermore, we offer you a fair complaints procedure.

A great help when selecting an agent is reputation. If family, friends, neighbours or people you know have had a good experience with a particular agent, then this can be a great help in making your decision.

Look out for the number of 'for sale' signs and in particular 'sold' signs around your local area. This will tell you which agents are most popular, and therefore can generate more leads for you.

Advertisements for properties in the local newspapers will also tell you which agents stand out from the rest and also tell you which areas the agents cover.

The local press will help to inform you how the local market is performing. This empowers you when talking to agents, buyers and interested parties.

Make sure you get on well with your chosen agent – this will be invaluable during the whole process.

Remember, choosing a member of the NAEA offers higher standards, protection and a complaints procedure for you. You can search for NAEA members at http://www.naea.co.uk/find-agent/

They're sold

Turn to your local estate agent to sell your property and you will be **SOLD ON:**

- Professional accredited local agent service
- Free valuation
- Local area knowledge
- Adverts in local newspapers, online and office window display
- Registered house hunters
- Solid marketing advice to help you sell fast

If you are thinking of selling, look no further than the estate agents in these pages for the best local advice available.

Wolverhampton

01902 267110

42 Queen Square, Wolverhampton, WV1 1TX

Goodchilds FOR SALE

Goodchilds
Estate Agents & Lettings

Hough Way,Wolverhampton

- POPULAR LOCATION
- DETACHED HOUSE
- THREE STORY
- SIX BEDROOMS
- TWO ENSUITES
- THREE RECEPTION ROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- OFF ROAD PARKING

£425,000

Riley Crescent,Wolverhampton

- DEATACHED HOUSE
- POPULAR LOCATION
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- THREE RECEPTION ROOMS
- DOWNSTAIRS SHOWER ROOM
- FIVE BEDROOMS

£350,000

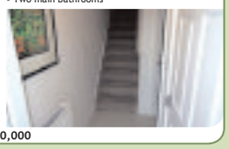
Compton Road,Wolverhampton

- DETACHED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- CONSERVATORY
- FITTED KITCHEN
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- ENSUITE TO MASTER
- FAMILY BATHROOM

£325,000

Oak Road,Stafford

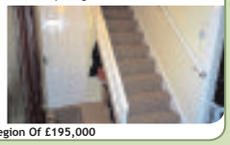
- Detached family home
- Three bedrooms
- Dining/Kitchen
- Contemporary style
- Gas Central heating
- Double glazing
- Built in 2013/14
- Two main bathrooms



£220,000

Oak Road,Stafford

- Spacious Semi
- Three Good Sized Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Large Breakfast Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Family Bathroom
- Well Presented
- Off Road parking



Offers in the Region Of £195,000

Dunlin Drive,Wolverhampton

- DETACHED BUNGALOW
- 2 BEDROOMS
- FEATURE KITCHEN
- POPULAR LOCATION
- GREAT ACCESS TO MAJOR ROAD NET-WORKS
- SINGLE GARAGE
- OFF ROAD PARKING

Offers in the Region Of £185,000

Stubby Lane,Wolverhampton

- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- DETACHED BUNGALOW
- LOUNGE/DINER
- FITTED KITCHEN
- 2/3 BEDOOMS
- FITTED BATHROOM

Offers in the Region Of £185,000

Worthy Down,Wolverhampton

- NO UPWARD CHAIN!
- DETACHED BUNGALOW
- CORNER PLOT
- POPULAR LOCATION
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- LOUNGE
- TWO BEDROOMS
- FITTED SHOWER ROOM

Offers in Excess of £160,000

Padbury,Wolverhampton

- DETACHED FAMILY HOME
- ENTRANCE PORCH
- LOUNGE
- DINING ROOM
- THREE BEDROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM

£169,950

Church Walk,Wolverhampton

- NO UPWARD CHAIN!
- POPULAR LOCATION
- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- FITTED KITCHEN
- UTILITY ROOM
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS

Offers in Excess of £165,000

Wellington Road,Wolverhampton

- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- PERIOD SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- BREAKFAST ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- DOWNSTAIRS SHOWER ROOM

£160,000

Stafford Road,Wolverhampton

- SEMI DETACHED
- THREE BEDROOMS
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- Double Glazing
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING

£139,995

Fowler Street,Wolverhampton

- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- SPACIOUS LAYOUT
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- LOUNGE
- FITTED KITCHEN
- THREE BEDROOMS
- FITTED BATHROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING

Offers in the Region Of £124,000

Cotswold Road,Wolverhampton

- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN/DINER
- UTILITY ROOM
- THREE BEDROOMS

Offers in the Region Of £115,000

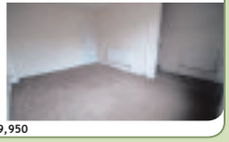
Redcotts Close,Wolverhampton

- MID TERRACED
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- OPEN PLAN LIVING SPACE
- VERANDA
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- THREE BEDROOMS

Offers in Excess of £104,950

St. Edmunds Close,Wolverhampton

- NO UPWARD CHAIN!
- END TERRACE
- CLOSE TO AMENITIES
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- FITTED KITCHEN
- FRONT GARDEN
- REAR GARDEN



£99,950

Spring Road,Wolverhampton

- Terraced Property
- Ettingshall
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Rear Garden
- Upstairs W.C.

Offers in the Region Of £95,000

St. Michaels Court,Wolverhampton

- FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY
- TETTENHALL
- GROUND FLOOR FLAT
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN

£89,950

Connaught Road,Wolverhampton

- Two Bedrooms
- Great Location
- Walking Distance to Wolverhampton City Centre
- Secure Entrance
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Reception Hallway

Offers in the Region Of £85,000

Fisher Street,Wolverhampton

- Terrace House
- Two Reception Rooms
- Shower Room
- Rear Garden
- No Chain
- Three Bedrooms

OIRO £79,995

Newbridge

- UPPER FLOOR FLAT
- TWO SPACIOUS BEDROOMS
- FITTED BATHROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- COMMUNAL GARDENS
- IDEAL INVESTOR AND FIRST TIME BUYER

Offers in the Region Of £77,500

Prestwood Road,Wolverhampton

- UPPER FLOOR FLAT
- ONE BEDROOM
- FITTED BATHROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- OPEN PLAN LOUNGE/KITCHEN DINER
- MODERN BUILD
- GATED PARKING
- DOUBLE GLAZING

Offers in Excess of £74,000

Northover Close,Wolverhampton

- GROUND FLOOR PROPERTY
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- REFITTED KITCHEN
- BATHROOM
- DOUBLE BEDROOM
- LOUNGE
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- REAR GARDEN

Offers in Excess of £70,000

Barley Close,Wolverhampton

- GROUND FLOOR FLAT
- ONE BEDROOM
- REFITTED KITCHEN
- STORAGE ROOMS
- FRONT GARDEN
- DOUBLE GLAZED

Offers in Excess of £60,000

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Goodchilds FOR SALE

Goodchilds
Estate Agents & Lettings

Main Road,Stafford
- Traditional Bungalow
- Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Large Breakfast Kitchen
- Loft Room

Offers in the Region Of £290,000

Gorsemoor Way,Wolverhampton
- Five Bedrooms
- Porch & Hallway
- Two Reception Rooms
- St Johns Catchment Area
- Large Kitchen
- Conservatory

Offers in the Region Of £250,000

Bear Lane,Henley-In-Arden
- Two Bedroomed Apartment
- Open Plan Living Area
- Master Bedroom with En-Suite
- Modern Fitted Kitchen
- Underfloor Heating
- Integral Appliances

Offers in the Region Of £235,000

Stafford Road,Wolverhampton
- SPACIOUS DORMER BUNGALOW
- POPULAR LOCATION
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM
- FOUR BEDROOMS

Offers in the Region Of £169,950

Hobnock Road,Wolverhampton
- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Garage
- Living/Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Downstairs W.C.

Offers in the Region Of £150,000

Damson Wharf,Tipton
- Three Bedroom Three Storey
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating

94,000

Collins Road,Wednesbury
- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- KITCHEN/DINER
- LOUNGE
- THREE BEDROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM

Offers in the Region Of £120,000

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MIDLANDS LETTINGS AGENCY of the YEAR 2015 — THE SUNDAY TIMES / THE TIMES

43 DAY CHALLENGE

Birmingham New Road,Bilston
- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- KITCHEN
- GARDEN ROOM
- THREE BEDROOMS

Offers in Excess of £100,000

Carlton Avenue,Wolverhampton
- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- CLOSE TO AMENITIES
- ENTRANCE PORCH
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- CONSERVATORY
- THREE BEDROOMS

Offers in the Region Of £115,000

The Russetts,Stafford
- Modern End Terrace
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- Re-Styled Bedroom
- UPVC double glazing

Offers in the Region Of £115,000

Carlton Avenue,Wolverhampton
- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- WEDNESFIELD
- CLOSE TO AMENITIES
- TWO BEDROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- LOUNGE/DINER

Offers in Excess of £110,000

Tonadine Close,Wolverhampton
- POPULAR LOCATION
- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- THROUGH LOUNGE
- STUDY/PLAYROOM
- EXTENDED KITCHEN

£100,000

Pitchwood Close,Wednesbury
- Terraced Property
- NO UPWARD CHAIN!
- Three Story
- Three Bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Kitchen/Diner

£136,000

Livingstone
- TENANTED PROPERTY!
- Allocated Parking
- Shower Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Lounge
- One bedroom

Offers in the Region Of £97,500

Damson Wharf,Tipton
- Three Bedroom Three Storey
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating

Offers in the Region Of £94,000

Phillips Avenue,Wolverhampton
- MID TERRACED HOUSE
- POPULAR LOCATION
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN
- TWO BEDROOMS

Offers in Excess of £89,950

Fisher Street,Wolverhampton
- Terrace House
- Two Reception Rooms
- Shower Room
- Rear Garden
- No Chain
- Three Bedrooms

OIRO £79,995

Damson Wharf,Tipton
- Three Bedroom Three Storey
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating

Offers in Excess of £79,000

Toll End Road,Tipton
- NO CHAIN
- Two bedrooms
- Close to amenities
- Ample off road parking
- Lounge
- Spacious rooms

Offers in the Region Of £74,950

Abbots Way,Wolverhampton
- GROUND FLOOR FLAT/STUDIO
- ONE BEDROOM
- FITTED BATHROOM
- LOUNGE
- FITTED BATHROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING

Offers in Excess of £63,000

Lawn Road,Wolverhampton
- First Floor Flat
- One Bedroom
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing

Offers in Excess of £55,000

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- Wednesfield
- Wolverhampton

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Extended detached is handy for the city centre

AN extended three-bedroomed detached family home, 34 Oxbarn Avenue, Bradmore, Wolverhampton has excellent sized accommodation and is in a convenient position for bus routes into the city centre.

It is for sale through Sanders Wright & Freeman at £185,000.

It has a front lounge with bay window and decorative fireplace, sitting room with feature fireplace and a sliding patio door to a rear day room, re-fitted kitchen with tiled flooring and part tiled walls, a Velux skylight window, space for a cooking range and integrated fridge and freezer, three bedrooms and a bathroom, side garage and a rear garden with a shed.

For further information contact Sanders Wright & Freeman on 01902 575555 or visit www.swfestateagents.co.uk

Spacious first-floor flat has £60,000 tag

THIS spacious first floor apartment in Temple Street, Bilston is well presented and comes with off-road parking and communal grounds.

It is for sale through Your Move at offers over £60,000.

An ideal property for first-time buyers, or buy-to-let investors. The accommodation is spacious, and there is a stylish fitted kitchen. The lounge has a feature fireplace.

There is an attractive modern fitted kitchen, double bedroom and a bathroom with a WC.

For further information contact Your Move on 01902 771511 or visit www.your move.co.uk

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ESTATE AGENTS • VALUERS • SURVEYORS

HALFPENNY GREEN

GOSPEL ASH ROAD ● Spacious 5 Bed Detached incorporating a potential Annexe combining modern appointments with attractive cottage styling ● Semi-rural location, close to W'ton Business Airport and Highgate Common yet convenient to facilities at Wombourne ● Electric gated entrance & block paved driveway/parking ● Double Garage ● Oil CH (new twin 1400 litre tanks) & double glazing ● Porch ● Sitting Room with Inglenook ● Lounge ● Conservatory ● Cloakroom ● Dining Room ● Kitchen with oil fired AGA and Breakfast Area ● Long rear Hall, Store Room & Leisure Room/Home Office all with potential to create annexe ● Master Bedroom with wardrobes and En-Suite ● 4 further Bedrooms ● Large House Bathroom ● Attic Room/Study ● Pleasantly private lawned gardens (EPC: F)

OFFERS AROUND £475,000

BISHOPS WOOD

● Exquisite Barn Conversion of exceptional quality forming part of exclusive small complex in glorious semi-rural setting but perfectly positioned for major commuting connections to Telford, W-ton, West Midlands conurbations and further afield ● Stunning accommodation of immense character and superlative specification blending rustic and contemporary styles to delightful overall effect ● Reception Hall with fitted Cloakroom ● Spacious Lounge with feature woodburner ● Separate Dining Room ● 20ft Breakfast Kitchen with extensive range of fittings and integrated appliances ● Galleried Landing incorporating Study area ● Large Master Bedroom with superb mezzanine Bathroom en-suite ● 2 further double Bedrooms, one with en-suite Shower Room ● Luxurious Principal Bathroom ● LPG-fired CH ● DG ● Gravelled forecourt parking facilities ● Elevated terraced patio garden with southerly aspect ● Lovely private landscaped garden area not overlooked from rear ● (EPC: D)

OFFERS AROUND £469,950

SEDGLEY

HIGH PARK CRESCENT ● Exceedingly spacious and uniquely designed 6 Bed contemporary Detached in pleasant residential enclave just off High Park Cres on Sedgley outskirts enjoying far reaching views ● Set in largest plot on the development ● Accommodation arranged over 3 floors being both roomy and well presented, ideal for comfortable family living ● Porch and Reception Hall ● Guest's Cloakroom ● Dining Room ● Sitting Room ● Large Living Kitchen and Laundry ● Elegant Lounge; Study; Two Bedrooms & Bathroom on first floor ● 4 further Bedrooms on second floor ● En-Suite Shower Room to 3 of the Bedrooms ● Gas CH and uPVC double glazing ● Detached Double Garage and block-paved driveway parking ● Enclosed rear Garden (EPC: C) ● ● NO UPWARD CHAIN ● ●

OFFERS AROUND £435,000

COMPTON ROAD

● Imposing traditional-style Detached residence offering excellent family accommodation in prominent location little more than one mile west of city centre ● Spacious layout blending character features with attractively appointed modern specification, nicely presented throughout ● Fitted Cloaks/Shower Room off Hall ● Two generously proportioned Reception Rooms ● 15ft Study/Office/Sitting Room ● Well equipped Kitchen including range cooker ● Utility/Laundry Area ● Four double Bedrooms ● Bathroom and separate Toilet ● Gas-fired central heating ● Double glazed windows ● Extensive forecourt parking facilities ● 110ft rear garden ● ● PART EXCHANGE CONSIDERED ● ● (EPC:F)

OFFERS AROUND £299,950

WOMBOURNE

SUTHERLAND DRIVE ● Considerably enlarged 4 Bed Semi-Detached House with exceedingly large garden and direct access onto the picturesque railway walk ● Set in popular neighbourhood off Orton Lane on northern Wombourne outskirts handy for the village facilities ● Porch and Hall ● 26ft Through Lounge ● Separate Dining Room ● Spacious Breakfast Kitchen with built-in appliances ● Inner Lobby with Toilet off ● Master Bedroom with door to balcony overlooking rear garden, Dressing Room and En-Suite ● 3 further good sized Bedrooms, two with wardrobes ● House Bathroom ● 24ft long Garage ● Gas CH and uPVC double glazing ● Delightfully laid out rear garden (EPC: C) ● ● Viewing highly recommended ● ●

OFFERS AROUND £265,000

PENN FIELDS

● Detached Dormer Bungalow residence of impressive double-fronted design, standing on generous plot in pleasant setting with easy access into city centre and excellent local amenities within short walk ● Spacious accommodation of versatile layout, comfortably appointed whilst providing scope for some updating to exploit full potential ● Two generously proportioned Living Rooms ● Superb 27ft. Breakfast Kitchen with splendid range of contemporary-style fittings and integrated appliances ● Three ground floor Bedrooms ● Ground floor Bathroom featuring both bath and separate shower cubicle ● Two further Bedrooms on first floor, one with en-suite Bathroom ● Gas-fired central heating ● Virtually full double glazing ● 21ft. Garage with W.C. and Laundry off ● Large rear garden (approx 85' x 75') ● Overall plot size of almost one quarter acre ● (EPC:E)

OFFERS AROUND £259,950

PENN FIELDS/BRADMORE

● Very attractive Detached residence of imposing individual design, conveniently located in popular neighbourhood with good selection of amenities close by ● Spacious accommodation of considerable character, retaining some lovely original features, neatly presented whilst offering scope for a little sympathetic upgrading ● Panelled Entrance Hall ● Bay-fronted Lounge with distinctive fireplace ● Separate Dining Room ● Additional Sitting Room ● Basic Kitchen ● Side Porch with W.C. off ● Verandah ● Three impressively proportioned Bedrooms ● Study/Nursery ● Well appointed Bathroom ● Gas-fired central heating ● Garage and driveway parking ● Mature landscaped gardens ● (EPC: E)

OFFERS AROUND £249,995

SWINDON

HIGH STREET ● Modern style 2 Bed Detached Bungalow situated in heart of Swindon village a short walk from day to day shopping facilities and not far from the picturesque Staffs & Worc canal ● Roomy internal layout ● Side Entrance Hall ● 20ft Lounge with patio doors to rear garden ● Kitchen with modern fitted units ● 2 good sized Bedrooms, both with wardrobes ● Shower Room with large shower cubicle and power shower ● Gas CH and uPVC double glazing ● Garage with electric up and over door and Carport ● Extensive block-paved driveway and low maintenance gardens to front and rear ● Southerly rear aspect (EPC: D) ● ● NO UPWARD CHAIN ● ●

OFFERS AROUND £234,950

TETTENHALL

● Attractive traditional-style Detached house enjoying pleasant setting in very popular residential backwater off Codsall Road ● Nicely modernised accommodation retains original character feel and offers a little further scope for upgrading to exploit full potential ● Porch and Hall ● Bay-fronted Lounge ● Separate Dining Room opening onto Verandah ● Well appointed contemporary-style Kitchen ● Rear Porch with Store and W.C. off ● Three well proportioned Bedrooms ● Stylish modern Shower Room ● Gas-fired central heating ● Double glazed windows ● 23ft Garage plus forecourt parking ● Neatly landscaped mature gardens ● (EPC: F)

OFFERS AROUND £225,000

WOMBOURNE VILLAGE

HIGH STREET ● Stylishly refurbished 2/3 Bedroom Terraced Cottage in heart of the village centre overlooking the quintessentially English cricket green and adjacent to the Walkers Way period style shopping courtyard ● Handy for other local facilities and amenities ● Steeped in history this quaint property blends modern refinements with rustic period features ● Living Room with beamed ceiling and recessed fireplace ● Neatly fitted Kitchen with 'Shaker' style units and built-in oven, hob and cooker hood ● Two main Bedrooms ● Refitted Bathroom with corner bath and shower leading through to Dressing Room/Occasional 3rd Bedroom ● Gas CH and Double Glazing ● Front door onto High Street and Rear Entrance via Walkers Way (EPC: E) ● ● NO CHAIN ● ●

OFFERS AROUND £169,950

A full selection of our properties can be viewed at: www.bartlams.co.uk

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Tel: (01902) 759888

Wombourne
House-On-The-Green High Street Wombourne WV5 9DN
Tel: (01902) 894141

Codsall
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Tel: (01902) 845215

Reeds Rains

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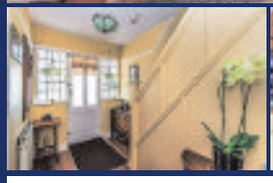
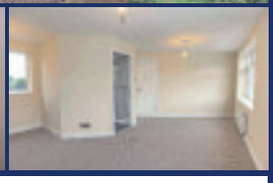
Rosemary Crescent



Goldthorn **O/O £285,000**

Five bedroom detached residence situated on Goldthorn Park, The property is in good decorative order and is very suitable for a growing family with it's good sized lawned rear garden. The property has two reception rooms, kitchen with separate breakfast area, bathroom and separate en suite as well as parking to the front. EPC Grade =E

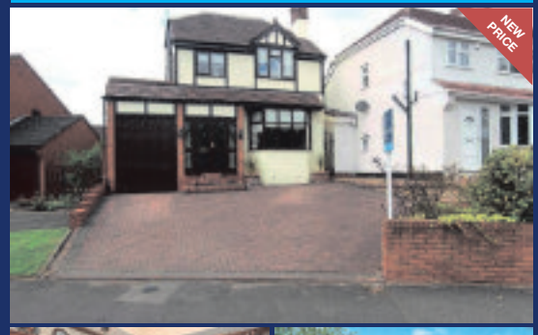
Fancourt Avenue



Penn **O/O £220,000**

OPEN HOUSE
Saturday 23rd January 11am - 1pm
Reeds Rains are delighted to present for sale a four bedroom semi detached property located in Penn available with NO ONWARD CHAIN property has undergone a refurbishment by the current owners includes new gas central heating including new radiators, new roof, a rewire, new doors as well as flooring, new kitchen, bathroom and en suite and is now ready to view to appreciate. Further accommodation comprises of two reception rooms and a downstairs WC property having own drive to a double garage as well as a rear garden. Don't miss out! EPC Grade = D

Aldersley Road



Claregate **O/O £185,000**

A beautifully presented three bedroom bedroom detached home with bonus loft space! Having been extensively improved and extended over the years. An exceptional family home!
EPC Grade = D

Willenhall Road

Willenhall **£575**

Please do not miss out on this very well presented family home. There is 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, 3 great sized bedrooms and a family bathroom. There is double glazed windows and gas central heating. Available Now!

There are many reasons for moving house. Whatever yours are, take the first step towards a new beginning and contact us to arrange a FREE valuation today.

Ask in branch for details or visit reedsrains.co.uk to book an appointment.

Waterloo House, 4 Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton WV1 4BL
01902 428888 wolverhampton@reedsrains.co.uk

Hardon Road

Parkfields **£650**

TOTALLY IMMACULATE FAMILY HOME. Property briefly comprises, entrance hall, large living room, stunning fitted kitchen. To the first floor there are three excellent bedrooms with an en-suite to the master bedroom, family bathroom, property also benefits from double glazing and gas central heating along with a rear garden.

The Malt House

Stourbridge **£1400**

OUTSTANDING COUNTRY RESIDENCE THAT JUST HAS TO BE VIEWED. Very rare do property of such quality and come to the rental market so if you are looking for an exquisite period property with a wealth of original features then you need look no further. The property is furnished and the accomodation comprises; a reception hallway, large lounge/diner with a log burner fire, fitted kitchen with appliances, two large double bedroom both with amazing en suite bathroom and a second floor bedroom with a further shower room. There is a small private garden

The chase

Dunstall **£700**

EXQUISITE AND ULTRA MODERN. You have to see this house. There is a great sized lounge with expensive laminate flooring and double doors leading through to a dining room and an archway to a fitted kitchen with appliances. The 3 first floor bedrooms are all of a good size and the family bathroom has a white suite and a shower. The property is double glazed and gas centrally heated and there is a driveway to the side. Available NOW!!!

Albion Street

City Centre **£595**

Great opportunity in this top floor luxury apartment in a great location in the heart of Wolverhampton. There is a lounge with Juliet balcony and a fitted kitchen with appliance. Master bedroom is complimented by an en suite shower room and there is a second bedroom and a family bathroom. The apartment is centrally heated and double glazed

Swancote Drive

Warstones **£600**

Theses house rarely come available and when they do they go very quickly. There is a lounge and separate dining room, a fitted kitchen and a side utility/store room. The first floor has 3 good sized bedrooms and a family bathroom There is double glazed windows and gas central heating. Parking to the front and landscaped south west facing rear garden

Fifth Avenue

Bushbury **£550**

GREAT HOUSE - GREAT LOCATION - GREAT PRICE Modern Semi Detached on Very Popular Development, 3 Bedrooms, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen with Oven and Hob, Bathroom with Shower, DG and GCH, Driveway and Rear Garden. You Must View this as it Will go Quickly!!

Windsor Avenue

Penn **£675**

AMAZING SEMI DETACHED HOUSE IN SOUGHT AFTER LOCATION. Reception hallway, lounge, dining room, extended kitchen, 3 bedrooms, refitted bathroom, double glazed, gas centrally heated. New carpets IMMACULATE!!!

Marsh Lane

Fordhouses **£575**

FAB SEMI DETACHED HOUSE IN GREAT LOCATION. This house has to been seen. The conservatory is huge and and the property also has a entrance hall, large through lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms and bathroom. DG and GCH and parking to the front

Elizabeth Avenue

Goldthorn **£625**

well presented semi detached house in a top location that comprises; entrance porch, hallway, large lounge, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms and luxury bathroom. There is gas central heating and double glazed windows. Garage and driveway,

Cannock
01543 578517

Stone
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Wolverhampton
01902 428888

Stafford
01785 258888

Eccleshall
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*The tenancy set up fee is £XXX. Additional fees may apply. Please refer to the website or ask in branch for more details.

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One of Wolverhampton's most famous, industrial landmarks thoughtfully converted to offer spacious residential accommodation with a wealth of character throughout

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For further information contact
Allen Grosvenor, 24a Chapel Ash, Wolverhampton WV3 0TN.
Tel: 01902 310263
Email: allengrosvenor@hotmail.co.uk

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Estate Agents 01902 310263

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Sedgley 01902 880888 | Kingswinford 01384 401777 | Stourbridge 01384 395555 | Also at Brierley Hill and Halesowen

SEDGLEY, Sandyfields Road

SPACIOUS, gas centrally heated, double glazed detached constructed to a individual specification & subsequently extended/re-configured with DISTANT VIEWS comprising; hall, cloaks, study, dining room, lounge (with open fireplace) & further 23' lounge, kitchen, conservatory. Principal bedroom with bathroom en suite, three further bedrooms, bathroom. Garage, magnificent grounds. BEST & FINAL OFFERS TO BE RECEIVED BY 12.00 NOON ON TUE 26.01.16. EPC: T.B.A. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £365,000

PENN COMMON, Sedgley Road

Gas centrally heated, double glazed Edwardian Cottage that has been tremendously renovated & with many period features on periphery of conservation area. Enjoying a secluded rear garden & with extensive parking & TWO GARAGES, comprising; hallway, dining room, sitting room, kitchen, pantry.Three bedrooms, bathroom. Boiler room. expertly tendered gardens. EPC: E. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £300,000

SEDGLEY, 'Algar Grange', Off Dudley Road

RARE OPPORTUNITY! - An exciting new development of 11 plots under construction by the Woodbourne Group of gas centrally heated & Upvc double glazed detached BUNGALOWS/dormer bungalows in short/quiet cul-de-sac within walking distance of Sedgley's Bull Ring & all associated amenities. Three designs available with prices from £218,500 up to £264,500, and First Phase scheduled for early April. SAP: T.B.A. Further details/plans/ specification etc. with Agents Sedgley Office.

PRICES FROM £218,500

SEDGLEY, Larch Grove

SIGNIFICANTLY ENLARGED & reconfigured, Freehold, gas centrally heated, primarily double glazed detached family home comprising; entrance vestibule, hallway, cloaks, 21'4" lounge, upgraded/refitted dining kitchen, CONSERVATORY, 21' sitting room with extensive 18" storage annexe beyond (further potential?). Four bedrooms (bedroom one with shower room en suite), bathroom. Block paved foregarden with 'large detached garage' secluded rear garden. EPC:T.B.A. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £270,000

SEDGLEY, Wolverhampton Road

EDWARDIAN ELEGANCE! SPACIOUS, gas centrally heated, double glazed semi detached of character retaining many fine period features comprising; hall, lounge, dining room, family room, kitchen, utility, cloakroom. Three double bedrooms (principal bedroom with shower room en suite), bathroom. VAST ROOF SPACE. Gardens, Vehicular access to EXTENSIVE PARKING. EPC:E. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £200,000

COSELEY, Lane Street, Daisy Bank

Gas centrally heated, double glazed THREE DOUBLE BEDROOM, detached bungalow with large CONSERVATORY & advantage of EXTENSIVE PARKING to the rear. TRANSFORMED by vendors in recent years to now comprise; porch, reception hall, three bedrooms, boiler room, reappointed/retiled luxury bathroom with contemporary suite, kitchen with granite work surfaces & a Range, sitting room, large 19'5" double glazed conservatory. Extensive gardens with rear vehicular access. EPC: D. SEDGLEY

Asking Price: £180,000

COSELEY, Somerford Way

Superbly presented modern detached property situated in the popular Coseley area and benefitting from Upvc double glazing, gas central heating, and briefly comprising; entrance hallway, guest w/c, living room, kitchen-diner. FOUR BEDROOMS, re-fitted family bathroom,. Garage, garden and drive to front, enclosed rear garden. EPC: D. SEDGLEY

Offers in excess of £175,000

WOMBOURNE, Gardeners Way

An IMPRESSIVE 2 BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW which enjoys a superb open front outlook with an ESTABLISHED & PRIVATE REAR GARDEN, offering a BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED and WELL APPOINTED layout with FRONT/SIDE DRIVEWAY. EPC D. K'FORD OFFICE

£169,950

WOLVERHAMPTON, Farrington Road, Ettingshall Park

NO UPWARD CHAIN - EXTENDED DETACHED property situated in the much sought after area of Ettingshall Park and benefits from; porch, hall, two reception rooms, kitchen, four bedrooms, tandem garage,garden, driveway. EPC Rating G. SEDGLEY. Best Final and Maximum offers to be received by 12 noon on Friday 22nd January 2016. The property requires comprehensive modernisation works and viewing is entirely at your own risk. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £159,950

COSELEY, Breen Rydding Drive

OUTSTANDING gas centrally heated, UPVC double glazed semi detached accommodation provides hall, lounge, 17'3" dining kitchen with patio doors, pantry, utility room, fitted cloak room. Three good bedrooms (two with fitted wardrobes), reappointed bathroom Garage, neat gardens. EPC Rating D SEDGLEY

Offers in the Region of £160,000

www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk

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TELLING IT HOW IT IS

Everyone knows we have a Housing Crisis here in the UK. However despite sky high prices & rentals where is the political will to tackle the issue?

The following, you may think represents a refreshingly pragmatic approach from a leading Government figure whose recent Annual Policy Speech included:- "Housing is still the most important livelihood issue we have to address. Exorbitant property prices/rentals, small living spaces... subdivided flats, record high PRH applications all tell us that we must tackle the housing problem... Since taking office, the Gov't has stated its determination to increase supply & curb property speculation and overheated investment. It has also reminded the community to watch out for fluctuations in the market caused by a long period of ultra-low interest rates & low supply... Our efforts over the past 3.5yrs have produced results. Supply has significantly increased & property prices & rentals have started to fall, reversing the perception that property prices and rentals can only go up... Some people wonder whether the Gov't will relax measures... Gov't officials and I have reiterated the courage & determination to tackle the housing problem & there should be no doubt in this regard. While it is the Gov'ts responsibility to provide land & public housing to cater for the needs of the public, it is not the Gov't's duty to ensure that property prices can only go up. Neither should prices be kept at a high by generating a man-made shortage. The current property price & rental levels are still beyond what people can afford, & have distorted the values of the younger generation. We should continue to tackle the housing problem head-on & must not concede." - So who is this sensible fellow? The answer - Hong Kong Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying. - A pity that a Proxy for the Chinese State seems more able to tell it how it is than our own ruling elite!

Adam Whitehouse

NEWBRIDGE £299,995

OFFERS INVITED

NEWBRIDGE CRESCENT

Detached family residence with extended accommodation. DG and CH. Detached double garage. Neat open plan grounds. Sought after western suburb of the City. (EPC 63 = D)

4 2 1

PENN £162,000

NEW PRICE AND OFFERS INVITED

WARSTONES ROAD

A deceptively spacious detached bungalow residence in sought after South West W'ton. Modern DG and CH plus a conservatory, study and garage. Viewing recommended and strictly by appointment – call now! (EPC 64 = D)

2 2 1

BILSTON £148,500

BACK ON THE MARKET

ROUNDS ROAD

Double-fronted Bungalow! Two or Three Bedroom options! Conservatory and S. Facing Garden. Gas CH and D/Glazed. Immaculate! (EPC 44 = E)

2 2 1

WEDNESFIELD £147,500

MILL LANE

A semi-detached home ideal for local commute to i54 and M54/M6. Well kept, has radiator CH majority DG plus detached garage and lovely rear garden. Must be viewed. (EPC 53 = E)

3 2 1

FORDHOUSES £145,000

BACK ON THE MARKET

AINSWORTH ROAD

An extended semi ideal for the i54/M54. Offering great potential, benefits include DG and warm air CH. No chain and offers invited. (EPC 59 = D)

3 2 1

PENN £144,500

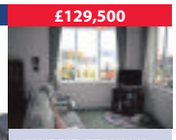
NEW PRICE AND OFFERS INVITED

BELMONT ROAD

Charming trad terrace home offering good family accommodation with DG & CH (both where specified) plus gardens. Can be offered with no upwards chain. (EPC 62 = D)

3 2 1

BILSTON £129,500



LOWBRIDGE WALK

A really spacious Two bedroom Apartment with two Bathrooms in stunning complex! Absolute loads of character! (EPC 66 = D)

2 2 2

WOLVERHAMPTON £129,000

NEW

HELMING DRIVE

Situated East of the City convenient for New Cross Hospital & Bentley Bridge Leisure and beyond. This semi-detached house is worthy of viewing, benefiting from DG and rad CH (both where specified) conservatory, garage, driveway, carport and gardens. (EPC 60 = D)

3 1 1

BLAKENHALL £123,000

NEW PRICE AND OFFERS INVITED

FOWLER STREET

Offers much potential. Although in need of cosmetic refurbishment, the property benefits from a new roof, damp proof course treatment plus modern CH and UPVC DG (EPC 63 = D)

3 2 1

BILSTON £99,950

NEW

FIELDSIDE WALK

3 bed semi facing fields. Close to Villiers school and a short walk of Bilston centre. Extra downstairs WC. Drive and single Garage at rear. DG and electric heating. (EPC 59 = D)

3 1 1

BUSHBURY £114,950

OFFERS INVITED

CHARTWELL DRIVE

North of Wolverhampton. This semi-detached home has the benefit of majority D.G. and rad C.H. & offers much potential. No upwards chain, includes all Fixtures and fittings included. Offers are invited! (EPC 65 = D)

2 1 1

WOLVERHAMPTON £79,950

NEW

HOLCROFT STREET

A fantastic project for someone with vision! Two Bedroom Semi with two receptions and useful outbuildings. Sound but lots of mods needed! NO CHAIN. (EPC 28 = F)

2 2 1

PERTON £75,000

NEW

WAVENEY AVENUE

Over 55s only flat. Close to major services and amenities within the heart of Perton. With no upwards chain viewing is recommended. Call us now for further in-depth information. (EPC 73 = C)

2 1 1

BILSTON £55,000

NEW PRICE

BOURNE STREET

Ground floor flat in small development in Hurst Hill with easy access to Sedgley/Bilston. Lots of storage space and with Garage! Gas CH and DG. No chain. (EPC 67 = D)

1 1 1

ALBRIGHTON £1,200* PCM

PARK FARM BUILDINGS
NEWLY CONVERTED
RURAL LOCATION
4 BEDROOMS
LANDSCAPE VIEWS
EPC 71 = C

4 1 2

WEDNESFIELD £650* PCM

NEW

SHARDLOW ROAD
RECENTLY REFURBISHED
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
LOVELY GARDEN
GCH AND DG
EPC 63 = D

3 2 1

WILLENHALL £600* PCM

NOOSE LANE
BUNGALOW
3 BEDROOMS
CONSERVATORY
OFF ROAD PARKING
EPC 65 = D

3 2 1

MONMORE GRANGE £575* PCM

DUNOON DRIVE
2 BEDROOM 1ST FLOOR APARTMENT
EN-SUITE
SPACIOUS LIVING/DINING ROOM
SECURE ALLOCATED PARKING
EPC 84 = B

2 1 2

GOLDTHORN PARK £550* PCM

PARK HALL GARDENS
TWO BEDROOM
UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING
ALLOCATED PARKING
COMMUNAL GARDENS
EPC 85 = B

2 2 1

BILSTON £450* PCM

NEW

AMBLESIDE CLOSE
1 BEDROOM MID CLUSTER HOUSE
GOOD SIZE BEDROOM
OFFERED FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED
EPC 63 = D

1 1 1

WOLVERHAMPTON £450* PCM

NEW

STOWHEATH LANE
SPACIOUS 2 BED FIRST FLOOR FLAT
REAR GARDEN AREA
OFF ROAD PARKING
GAS RADIATOR CH AND UPVC DG
EPC 69 = C

2 1 1

* Applicants for rental properties are charged a non-refundable fee of £70+VAT each to cover credit check and referencing

VIEW MORE PROPERTIES AT www.reespage.com

WOLVERHAMPTON 01902 577775 BILSTON 01902 577767 LETTINGS 01902 577799

Double-fronted detached bungalow

THIS four-bedroomed double fronted detached bungalow in Broad Lane, Bloxwich has spacious accommodation and is conveniently positioned for Bloxwich Railway Station.

With gas central heating and double glazing, it is for sale through Skitts at £220,000.

It has a porch, reception hall with archway to an inner hallway, a front lounge with a feature fireplace and a bow window, a breakfast kitchen with built-in electric oven, four-ring electric hob and extractor fan, utility, four bedrooms (two with French doors to the garden), a bathroom and a rear garden, driveway and detached garage. Contact Skitts on 01922 478104 or visit www.skitts.net

Spacious detached home in a sought after location

A DECEPTIVELY spacious detached home in a sought after location in Four Crosses Road, Shelfield, Walsall with a refitted kitchen and bathroom, also comes with a garage and parking for several cars.

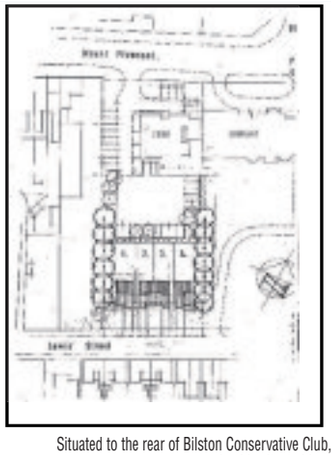
It is for sale through Goodchilds at £225,000.

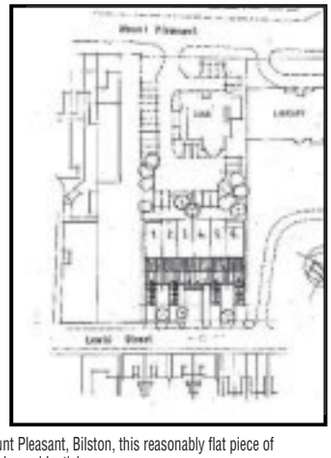
It has a front driveway and lawned garden, an entrance hall with a door off to a shower room/guest WC, a spacious lounge with a feature fireplace and bay window, an archway to a dining area, a delightful breakfast kitchen, a master bedroom with wardrobes, three further bedrooms, a bathroom and a beautifully presented and private rear garden with

Charles J. Robinson and Company

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY

THE FREEHOLD LAND
OFF LEWIS ST. BILSTON





Situated to the rear of Bilston Conservative Club, Mount Pleasant, Bilston, this reasonably flat piece of land is situated in a popular residential area.

We are offering this land with potential for residential development subject to planning permission.
All main services are close at hand.

Enclosed are plans for illustration purposes only and are not to be relied on to scale.

Please note that Bilston Conservative Club will play no part in any negotiations and they should not be approached.
Viewing is strictly by appointment and unauthorised entry to the land is prohibited.

OFFERS ARE INVITED FOR THE FREEHOLD INTEREST

TELEPHONE: 01902 846489

FREE SALES

www.charlesjrobinson.co.uk

Property extended and modernised

THIS attractive detached four-bedroomed property in Springvale Avenue, Walsall, has been extended and modernised over recent years.

Within a short distance of local amenities and Walsall town centre, it is for sale through Edwards Moore at £425,000.

Still offering tremendous potential and with double glazing and gas central heating it has a porch, reception hall, guest WC, living room, extended dining and sitting room with feature fireplace, conservatory, large breakfast kitchen with appliances and modern wood-effect units, utility, four bedrooms and two modern bathrooms.

There is also an enclosed rear garden, ample off-road parking to the front and a double garage with electrically operated doors. Call 01922 615222 or visit www.edwardsmoore.co.uk

Charming period-style four-bedroom detached

A CHARMING period-style detached residence in Short Street, Cannock, has extended four-bedroom family sized accommodation on a corner plot with a delightful garden and a detached double garage.

It is for sale through Marwood Homes at £227,950.

The accommodation comprises substantial lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen with wood-effect units and splash-back tiling, rear lobby, four double bedrooms and a modern bathroom. Contact 0121 3542079 or visit www.marwoodhomes.com

Chestnut Walk is ideally located close to the local amenities of Bilston with fantastic transport links to major Black Country routes, as well as the M6 and M5 motorways.

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West Midlands WV14 0TW
Open Daily, 10am ~ 5.30pm

REDROW
OUR PRIDE~YOUR JOY

Help to Buy is a Government backed initiative in partnership with housebuilders. *Shows price with 20% loan assistance. Available on selected plots, subject to status, terms and conditions. Help To Buy cannot be used in conjunction with any other scheme. It is highly advised, for a swift, smooth transaction that an IFA/Solicitor advised by Redrow Homes is used. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other Redrow offer. Image typical of Redrow homes. Prices correct at time of going to press. YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR ANY OTHER DEBT SECURED ON IT. CHECK THAT THIS MORTGAGE WILL MEET YOUR NEEDS IF YOU WANT TO MOVE OR SELL YOUR HOME OR YOU WANT YOUR FAMILY TO INHERIT IT. IF YOU ARE IN ANY DOUBT, SEEK INDEPENDENT ADVICE.

Property

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*SOURCE: JICREG 01.04.2014

An Express & Star supplement

Express & Star

Boasting own bar and gym

AN elegant detached residence with an adjoining one-bedroomed coach house in Amos Lane, Wednesfield comes with six cellar areas, including a 30ft entertainment games room.

Also with a drinks bar and gymnasium/workout room and a large attic area, it is for sale through Connells at £595,000. There is a generous car parking area, a split-level rear garden with lower level barbecue area.

The main residence has an impressive hall with gallery landing. There is a main lounge, dining room, sitting room and re-fitted breakfast kitchen, and an adjoining utility and ground floor WC. The first floor has four spacious double bedrooms and a re-fitted spacious bathroom.

For further information contact Connells on 01902 710170 or visit www.connells.co.uk

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Offers from £400,000

PAGET ROAD TETTENHALL RD

A very spacious and recently refurbished early Edwardian Semi Detached Residence of much character presently converted into two excellent self contained apartments but would easily convert back into a single dwelling house if desired. The ground floor flat comprises: living room, modern kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, CH, part DG. The first floor flat offers: sitting room, superbly fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, deluxe bathroom, there is a further attic room and part uPVC DG, gas Ch. Ideal growing family or family with dependent relative; alternatively investor seeking renal income. Energy ratings: C & D

£225,000

WARSTONES CRESCENT PENN

A beautifully presented and extremely well appointed Detached Bungalow of much charm enjoying a pleasant secluded setting in this popular area. Reception hall, most attractive lounge/dining area, well fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, sun lounge, deluxe shower room, uPVC DG, gas Ch, large garage, delightfully landscaped south facing rear garden. Early sale desired. Awaiting EPC

£210,000

PINFOLD LANE PENN

A spacious, extended Semi Detached Family Residence of considerable appeal, well appointed and attractively presented, enjoying an attractive setting in this popular residential neighbourhood. Tile canopy porch, enclosed entrance lobby, reception hall, living room, sitting room, extended well appointed breakfast kitchen, deluxe bathroom, three bedrooms, deluxe bathroom, hardstanding front garden affording ample parking, garage, enclosed rear garden, gas central heating, uPVC double glazing. Energy rating: D

Offers Over £200,000

EAGLE STREET PENN FIELDS

A most impressive Victorian End Terraced Family Residence of exceptional appeal holding prominent corner setting in this highly popular area. Porch, hall, lounge, dining room, cellar, breakfast kitchen, deluxe bathroom, four bedrooms, shower room, utility/store room with w.c. off, CH, uPVC DG, large double width garage, enclosed walled courtyard garden. Ideal home for the growing family or family with dependent relative or alternatively a nursery, doctors/dentist surgery etc (subject to PP). Viewing highly recommended. Energy Rating: D

Offers, guide £187,500

CLAREMONT RD PENN FIELDS

A beautifully presented and superbly appointed Semi Detached House of exceptional attraction enjoying a pleasant and highly convenient setting. Recessed entrance porch, beautifully fitted "L" shaped living kitchen/dining area, most attractive lounge, 3 excellent bedrooms, deluxe bathroom, CH, uPVC DG, garage, private and sunny rear garden. Viewing highly recommended. No upward chain. Awaiting EPC

£158,500

TURF COTTAGES PENN COMMON

A period Mid Terraced Cottage in need of some updating but affording considerable potential for improvement and extension, enjoying a lovely setting with breath taking views over The Common, Penn Golf Course and far reaching views beyond. Enclosed porch, lounge, dining room, inner lobby, bathroom, kitchen, two bedrooms, part uPVC DG, gas CH, rear garden, large garden store. No upward chain. Energy rating: C

Offers, guide £155,000

LEA ROAD PENN FIELDS

Semi Detached Family House of traditional character pleasantly situated in this popular area well positioned for a wide range of local amenities and offering considerable extension possibilities (approved plans available for inspection). Enclosed porch, reception hall, front living room, rear sitting room, kitchen, "L" shaped utility room, toilet, enclosed area/utility no.2, three bedrooms, bathroom, front garden, garage, generous sized rear garden, gas central heating. No Upward Chain. Energy rating: F

£139,995

VICTORIA ROAD BRADMORE

An admirable Semi Detached Family House of traditional character in need of some updating but offering much potential, pleasantly situated in this popular road. Enclosed porch, hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, uPVC DG, CH, generous sized rear garden. No upward chain. Awaiting EPC

Offers £135,000

PRUDEN AVENUE LANESFIELD

An attractively presented and particularly pleasing Semi Detached Bungalow enjoying a gently elevated setting well positioned for a wide range of local amenities. Enclosed side entrance lobby, fitted kitchen, bathroom, inner hall, lounge, two bedrooms, potential for loft room conversion (subject to pp), CH, uPVC DG, off road parking space, gardens front and rear. Energy rating: D.

Offers, guide £123,000

DUNLIN DRIVE FEATHERSTONE

A pleasing Semi Detached House ideal for first time buyers or investors seeking rental income, attractively situated on this very popular development. Reception hall, lounge with dining area off, kitchen, landing, two bedrooms, bathroom, CH, uPVC DG, ample parking space, gardens. Energy rating: D

£129,000

GLENMORE CLOSE BRADMORE

An especially attractive and delightfully presented Semi Detached Bungalow of much charm enjoying a pleasant end of cul-de-sac setting in this popular residential area. The easy to maintain and well appointed accommodation briefly comprises: Reception hall, delightful living room, fitted kitchen, inner hall, two bedrooms, uPVC double glazed conservatory, shower room, DG, CH, block paved front garden affording parking for 2 cars, laid out rear garden. Must be seen. Early sale desired. Energy rating: D.

£118,000

TILBURY CLOSE CASTLECROFT

A most pleasing Ground Floor Apartment of considerable attraction, well positioned in this much favoured area handy for a wide range of local facilities. Reception hall, lounge/dining area, refitted kitchen, two good bedrooms, bathroom, CH, uPVC DG, off road parking facilities, gardens. Energy rating: D

Offers, guide £96,000

OXFORD STREET BILSTON

An especially attractive and well appointed first floor apartment of considerable appeal holding a prominent corner setting only a short distance from Bilston Town Centre. Entry phone with security camera. Reception hall, large "L" shaped open plan lounge/dining area with well fitted kitchen area off, two double bedrooms, bathroom, CH, double glazing, laid out communal gardens, two secure allocated car parking spaces. £50,800 (Based on 40% shared ownership with Heantun Housing Association). Energy rating: B

£50,800

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Bungalow is available with no chain involved

A VIEWING of this well presented semi-detached bungalow in Porlock Avenue, Stafford, is suggested to appreciate what it fully has to offer.

It is for sale through Clothier & Day at £205,950 with no chain.

Having a new roof and a conservatory and being in a popular location, it has an entrance hallway, a rear facing family lounge and dining area combined, re-fitted kitchen, utility, sitting room/office, two ground floor bedrooms, a bath and shower room, a first floor bedroom, double glazing.

It boasts gas central heating, garage, ample drive parking, a front and good sized, private rear garden.

For further information contact Clothier & Day on 01785 225205 or visit www.clothierand-day.com

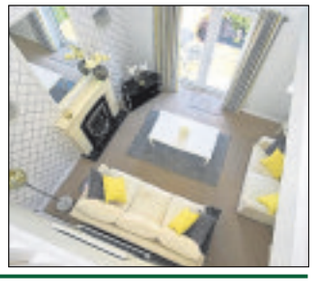
Furnishings offer on former show home

THIS stunning modern but character property in Gladstone Place, Blakedown is beautifully and stylishly decorated throughout.

An unusual two-bedroomed dormer bungalow and former show home, built by Barratt Homes in 2013, it is for sale through The Lee Shaw Partnership at £250,000. Its fabulous furnishings can be purchase by separate negotiation if required.

In a cul-de-sac on a small development, it has an entrance hall, living room, dining kitchen, two bedrooms and a bathroom and shower room. Motorway access is also convenient.

For further information contact The Lee Shaw Partnership on 01562 888111 or visit the website www.leeshaw.com



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●D/G & Gas C/H●	●Fitted Kitchen●	●Spacious Kitchen/Diner●	●Bathroom With Shower●	●Garage ● Conservatory●	●Good Size Driveway●
●Modern Fitted Kitchen●	●Bathroom With Shower●	●Bathroom With Shower●	●Very Quiet Location●	●Available Now Unfurnished●	●Modern Fitted Kitchen●
●Available Now●	●Available Mid Jan 2016●	●Available Now Unfurnished●	●Available March●		●Available Now Unfurnished●
Rent £450.00 P.C.M	Rent £550.00 P.C.M	Rent £550.00 P.C.M	Rent £595.00 P.C.M	Rent £650.00 P.C.M	Rent £795.00 P.C.M

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Salute to the McLaren F1

According to its creator, Gordon Murray, the McLaren F1 was "an attempt to build the best engineered driver's car ever made."

It was an attempt that clearly succeeded… according to F1 owner and serial car collector Jay Leno, it is simply "the Greatest Car of the 20th Century."

Produced between 1992 and 1998, just 106 examples were built. Of that figure a mere 64 were standard road cars, so there's only a remote chance of seeing one in the flesh.

Unless you head to the London Classic Car Show at London's ExCeL centre next month, that is. For a special display devoted to the F1 and curated by designer Gordon Murray will form one of the major attractions at the show.

No fewer than five F1s will be shown – two standard road cars, two GTR racers and a 'long tail' F1 GT road car. Last year we paid tribute to Adrian Newey with an amazing display of his world beaters; this year we are putting the spotlight on Gordon Murray and, in particular, the amazing McLaren F1 he fathered," explained Event Director, Bas Bungish. "All those involved in what's clearly going to be a very special homage to the F1 believe it will be by far the best, and most complete, insight ever put together for the public – thus something no car enthusiast will want to miss. As well as Gordon himself, we are working very closely with those at McLaren's own MSO Heritage and acknowledged F1 specialists Lanzante to ensure this fabulous display is as comprehensive and detailed as possible."

To give visitors a unique insight into the world's first 'million dollar motor' – the McLaren cost £634,500 when new – one of the road cars will be displayed with its doors, bonnet and engine cover open, while one of the racers will have its exterior panels removed to show what goes on under the skin.

The showcase will be completed with a number of F1-related artefacts including the race suit worn by JJ Lehto when he won the 1995 Le Mans 24 Hours in an F1. Also on display will be the road car's bespoke luggage, a BMW engine block, one of the TAG Heuer watches given to each owner and engraved with their car's build number and an example of the car's bespoke tool kit, made from gold-plated titanium no less.

Technical drawings, photos and special films produced by McLaren to celebrate the car's 20th anniversary its famous Le Mans 24 Hours victory in 2015 will also be shown.

"When we started work on the F1 we benchmarked all the existing supercars from Ferrari, Lamborghini, Porsche and so on, as well as aspects of cars as varied as the contemporary Honda NSX and the 1960s Lotus Elan. The idea was to better the performance, vehicle dynamics, handling and ride comfort of all of them at the same as producing a car that could, genuinely, be used every day.

No fewer than five F1s will be shown – two standard road cars, two GTR racers and a 'long tail' F1 GT road car

"We achieved it all… except perhaps the steering. The F1 gets very close but doesn't quite better the purity of the Lotus Elan's steering," said Murray.

Partly because each car took three and a half months to build and partly because it is crammed full of exotic materials including gold leaf, titanium, magnesium and Kevlar, McLaren lost money on each car made despite that heady price tag.

Those with the foresight and wherewithal to buy the car when it was new, however, couldn't have made a better investment. Last August a 1998 McLaren F1 LM sold at auction in America by Sotheby's for close to £9 million.

One of the unique features of the London Classic Car Show is The Grand Avenue, a roadway running through the centre of the exhibition hall along which classics of all different shapes and sizes are put through their paces.

It is anticipated that one of the McLarens will take to The Grand Avenue during the show, so visitors will not just be able to gaze at this remarkable British car at rest, but see and hear it in action, too.

Tickets for the London Classic Car Show are on sale now.

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Skoda's great car range

Citigo

The Citigo is Skoda's take on the most modern citycar design in the market. With the Czech brand on the bonnet, it makes value sense too.

It's an impressive compact city car which borrows the technological expertise offered by Skoda's parent company, Volkswagen. It then blends it with the value we expect from this rapidly growing Czech brand.

Those in search of a beautifully conceived, affordable and impressively space and fuel-efficient urban runabout should seriously consider it.

Go for the slightly pokier 75PS variant and Skoda includes its efficiency package (with start/stop and everything else) as standard with this engine, so the returns achieved – 67.3mpg on the combined cycle and 98g/km – are substantially better than most rivals.

Whether you opt for your Citigo with 60 or 75PS, the benefits of the efficiency package are important given that they take this car below the 100g/km barrier, making it completely free from congestion charges and delivering all kinds of tax benefits.

Fabia Compact Hatchback and Estate

Skoda ups the ante with its third-generation Fabia, introducing sharper, more assertive styling and clever technology. With more space inside, increased scope for personalisation and better efficiency from its engines, the Fabia has the basics spot on.

The Fabia has done very well for Skoda. Around 3.5 million cars have sold to date, split between 1.8 million first-generation Fabias and around 1.7 million second-generation cars. That's quite some success story. The Fabia blends a mix of abilities and can probably be described as the car that offers the most quality for your pound in its sector.

Skoda Octavia

The talented new Skoda Octavia is bigger and better value than most of its rivals, a medium-sized hatch for the price of a compact-sized one.

If you're after more performance, then you'll appreciate one of the sporty vRS models. Horses for courses you see.

And if those courses are likely to be on the rough and muddy side, then you'll be interested in the four-wheel drive system also developed for this car, primarily for a Scout estate model with additional body cladding and a raised ride height.

Skoda Superb

The aptly-named, prestigious new Skoda Superb looks better than ever, is even more polished inside and backs that up with ever better efficiency measures.

Increasingly, the big hatchback or estate car is filling a bit of a niche. There's little doubt that at this price point it's hard to buy better than the Skoda Superb if you're really not after a 4x4 or a people carrier.

It rides and handles better than any comparatively-priced SUV or MPV we can think of, it's elegantly understated and it makes sense on the balance sheet, too.

Rapid

Skoda understands its customers. Ease of ownership, value pricing and solid build are all priorities. All are satisfied by the Golf competing Rapid.

That the brand can deliver more sophistication than this is not in doubt – the larger Octavia demonstrates that. But the point here is that a significant number of customers just don't need it and the new Rapid is tailor made for them.

In addition Skoda offers the Rapid Spaceback which features a longer wheelbase and sportier look.

Yeti

Then there's the incredible, multi-award winning Yeti, a very spacious but externally compact Yeti, which strikes the perfect balance between on road performance, family orientated practicality and rugged 4x4 styling. It's available with a choice of two or four-wheel drive and diesel and petrol engines.

What makes Skoda's Yeti so appealing? It's spacious, safe, drives well, has a cool but understated image and extremely low running costs. The latest car adds a little equipment, tidies the interior and tweaks the styling but otherwise sticks to a tried and tested recipe. In truth, not a lot needed changing. The Yeti remains a class act.

All new Skodas are covered by a comprehensive, three-year (60,000 mile) parts and labour warranty, a 12-year anti-perforation warranty, plus you'll gain three-year's RAC membership cover.

Representative example for a Mercedes-Benz A-Class A 180 d Sport Facelift Hatchback Manual*

36 Monthly Payments	£249	Optional Final Payments	£12,875
On the Road Price	£23,155	Amount of Credit	£18,842.22
Customer Deposit	£1,999	Total Amount Payable	£26,161.77
Retailer Deposit Contribution	£2,313.77	Purchase Activation	£10
Total Deposit	£4,312.77	Fixed Interest Rate	6.16%
Number of Payments	36	APR	6.4%

Finance example for a Mercedes-Benz GLA d Sport Manual**

48 Monthly Payments	£299	Optional Final Payments	£12,875
On the Road Price	£27,385	Amount of Credit	£23,141.25
Customer Deposit	£3,999	Total Amount Payable	£31,480.75
Retailer Deposit Contribution	£244.75	Purchase Activation	£10
Total Deposit	£4,243.75	Fixed Interest Rate	5.58%
Number of Payments	48	APR	5.7%

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Official government fuel consumption figures in mpg (litres per 100km) for the A-Class range: urban 30.7(9.2)-72.4(3.9), extra urban 50.4(5.6)-88.3(3.2), combined 40.9(6.9)-80.7(3.5). CO2 emissions 162-89 g/km. Official government fuel consumption figures in mpg (litres per 100km) for the GLA range: urban 29.4(9.6)-56.5(5.0), extra urban 46.3(6.1)-80.7(3.5), combined 38.2(7.4)-67.3(4.2). CO2 emissions 172-108 g/km.

The above detailed information has been supplied by Mercedes-Benz. †1 free service per annum over 36 months eligible for A-Class and GLA (excluding AMG models) credit approved, ordered and registered between 01.01.2016 and 31.03.2016. *Finance based on a 3 year PCP at 5,000 miles per annum. **Finance based on a 4 year PCP at 10,000 miles per annum. Finance is subject to credit approval and vehicles must be credit approved, ordered and delivered between 01.01.2016 and 31.03.2016 and registered by 30.06.2016, subject to availability. Excess mileage charges apply. Models shown for illustration purposes only. Amount of retailer deposit contribution dependent on model. Finance available from Mercedes-Benz Financial Services UK Ltd, MK15 8BA. Finance subject to status. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Drayton Group Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and is a credit broker. Drayton Group may receive payments for financial introductions.

Suzuki's Celerio an honest car

By John Griffiths

You may have noticed that new car prices are on a rapid upward spiral, so that even some of the 'value' brands now cost the sort of money which would have bought you a premium saloon a few years ago.

But to be fair, even the most cynical among us can't put automotive inflation down to simple profiteering. There is, for example, mounting pressure on car makers to make massive investments in research and development in the fields of safety, fuel economy and reducing exhaust emissions.

Jaguar Land Rover's £1 billion investment in a new plant to produce the super efficient Ingenium diesel engine on the outskirts of Wolverhamton is one example. Then, of course, there are the new hybrid and fuel cell technologies.

Buyers are also demanding more: some cars now have so many electronic gadgets we older folk need a further education course to use them properly. But where does that leave those of us who can't afford a new car, with the benefits of a fuel efficient engine and a peace of mind warranty?

Well, there's the Suzuki Celerio. witth one of the largest cabins in the 'city car' class, over 60mpg, zero road tax and one of the cheapest new cars you can buy with prices from £7,414. That's the price for the entry level 'SZ2' test car: a practical hatchback with few frills but all the essentials. There are better equipped Celerios further up the range, and even a more economical engine, but this base model is hard to beat if you want true value for money motoring.

It still comes, for example, with a full safety package including anti-lock brakes with electronic brake force distribution, emergency brake assist, electronic stability control and six airbags.

There's also a decent DAB radio and CD player, tinted glass electric front windows and an effective heater – but no air conditioning and you have to adjust the wing mirrors with little manual levers instead of electric switches.

The three cylinder, one litre engine has an official fuel average of 65.7mpg, a CO2 rating of 99g/km (so no road tax under current regulations) and insurance shouldn't break the bank with a low 7E (out of 50) rating.

It was a brave decision by Suzuki to replace two older models (the Alto and the Splash) with one, the Celerio, There was an initial problem with a brake part, too, but the company recommissioned the part and retro fitted it to those cars which had already gone out to dealers within days.

The result? Well the Celerio has proved to be a big seller for Suzuki, indicating its the right package which convinces test-driving customers.

Footprint

The Celerio has a small 'footprint' but it's also relatively high which means it's been laid out to seat four adults in comfort – even a 6ft 6ins colleague wasn't cramped in the rear. With its tall stance and five doors, access is easy too.

With light, power assisted steering, a higher-than-average seating position and deep windows it's a breeze to park and to handle around town.

The steering is positive, too, which helps makes the Celerio a pleasant car to drive on the open road. With 68bhp it's no ball of fire but keeps up with even motorway traffic without fuss or excessive engine noise. A typical Suzuki motor, it's more of a purr than a growl.

The ride feels a little firm over poor surfaces, but it's sufficiently well damped to ensure comfort and prevent the bumps throwing the steering off track.

The slowest moving part of the test car was the fuel guage: while I didn't manage the official 65.7mpg, over a week of driving the actual figure was close to 60mpg which is the best I remember from a petrol car.

If you want, or can afford, to upgrade to the flagship SZ3 version, you can also have Suzuki's new 'dualjet' engine. While it's basically the same unit, with the same overall power output, it is slightly quicker and considerably more economical. With a new fuel injection system, variable valve timing and a few other technical modifications, it is one of the most efficient petrol engines ever produced. Official figures credit it with an incredible 78.4mpg and an ultra low 84g/km.

There's also an 'automatic' option – in fact it's not a traditional auto but an automated manual box, where the work of the clutch is done by electronics and servos. You can still use the gear lever for manual changes (or not, as suits you).

Higher grade models are, of course, better equipped, too, with features such as air conditioning starting at SZ2.

The practical split/fold rear seats are standard, though, with cargo space of 254 litres rising to 726 litres when they're folded flat. That's another area in which the Suzuki goes to the top of the city car class.

Suzuki pride themselves on being the small car experts and certainly the Celerio is something of a master class in packaging.

A small footprint on the road with surprising amounts of room inside, excellent economy and low running costs. It's the sort of honest car which the market (and many car buyers) need.

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Amount of credit	£8,345.00	Total amount payable	£8,845.00
Total charge for credit	£0	Duration of agreement (months)	25
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Amount of credit	£16,265.00	Total amount payable	£18,040.58
Total charge for credit	£1,775.58	Duration of agreement (months)	37
Fixed rate of interest (per annum)	2.52%	Selected annual mileage	6,000
Representative	4.9% APR	Excess mileage charge	14.9p per mile

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£514.56 per month

Personal Contract Purchase Representative Example: **Kia Sorento 2.2 CRDi KX1**

Cash price of car	£28,795.00	36 monthly payments	£514.56
Customer deposit	£0	One final payment (GFV)	£11,963.75
Kia deposit contribution	£1,250.00	Total amount payable	£31,737.91
Amount of credit	£27,545.00	Duration of agreement (months)	37
Total charge for credit	£4,192.91	Selected annual mileage	6,000
Fixed rate of interest (per annum)	2.52%	Excess mileage charge	14.9p per mile
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Kia range fuel consumption (mpg): Urban 19.3–54.3, Extra-Urban 31.–70.6, Combined 26.2–62.8, CO_2 117–258 g/km.
MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.
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Cash price of vehicle	£11,995.00
Customer deposit	£3,421.75
Mazda deposit contribution	£500.00
36 monthly payments of	£99.00
Amount of credit	£8,073.25
Interest charges	£0
Optional final payment	£4,509.25
Total amount payable	£11,995.00
Fixed rate of interest	0% p.a.
Representative	0% APR
Annual mileage	6,000
Excess mileage charge per mile	14.9p
Duration of agreement	37 months

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0% APR* REPRESENTATIVE

£159 PER MONTH

on Mazda Personal Contract Purchase

Mazda Personal Contract Purchase example: **Mazda 3 100PS SE 5dr**

Cash price of vehicle	£16,995.00
Customer deposit	£3,670.75
Mazda deposit contribution	£1,000.00
36 monthly payments of	£159.00
Amount of credit	£12,324.25
Interest charges	£0
Optional final payment	£6,600.25
Total amount payable	£16,995.00
Fixed rate of interest	0% p.a.
Annual percentage rate	0% APR
Annual mileage	6,000
Excess mileage charge per mile	14.9p
Duration of agreement	37 months

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Amount of credit	£13,027.75
Interest charges	£1,213.75
Optional final payment	£7,437.50
Total amount payable	£19,208.75
Fixed rate of interest	2.01% p.a.
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The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results obtained through laboratory testing. These are provided for comparability purposes only and may not reflect your actual driving results.

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More than a Mondeo but still practical

By Matt Joy

Ford has released the first car to wear its up-market Vignale badge, but is it just a more expensive Mondeo or something more substantial?

This is brand new territory for Ford, as it seeks to muscle in on the compact premium sector with the Mondeo Vignale. More than just a trim designation, Vignale models sit at the top of the Mondeo range and have unique exterior and interior elements and are designed to offer superior comfort.

What's more, they are finished in a special area of Ford's Valencia factory, with additional layers of paint and higher quality standards, and if you buy one you can only do so from specially-chosen Ford dealers. You'll get a higher standard of service too, with free collection and pick-up from your dedicated Vignale dealerperson.

On the outside, there's unique alloy wheels, a gloss finish to the grille and pillars, and some extra chrome detailing, plus those unmissable badges. The Mondeo Vignale is also available in just four colours: black, silver, white and 'Nocciola' – brown to you and me.

It's a handsome machine, arguably more so in estate form, and while the Vignale extras do make it feel a little more posh, there's no denying it's still clearly a Mondeo. It's very early days for this sub-brand, and only time will tell if buyers respond to its perceived elevation over the standard car.

It gets better on the inside, however. As the Vignale sits above the Titanium X in the Mondeo range, it is positively groaning with kit. There's a big Sony audio system with satnav and Ford's SYNC2 system, active noise cancelling (more of which later), ambient lighting and you can even have ventilated massage seats.

Practical

There's also leather – tons of the stuff. The seats have their own pattern (designed to echo that of the front grille) plus it's on the dashtop, the doors and even on the centre armrest. It's here you begin to feel that you're getting something for the additional outlay, although obviously it is just as practical as a regular Mondeo.

As you'd expect, the Vignale is standard Mondeo underneath, but that's no bad thing. What has changed is that the suspension has been tweaked to deliver a smoother ride, while there's acoustic side glass as standard and the noise cancelling system to keep the cabin hushed.

With the most-popular 2.0 TDCI unit and the Powershift transmission taking care of gearshifts, piloting the Mondeo Vignale is a genuinely relaxing experience. The ride may be smoother but it still has the Ford sharpness of response you'd expect, while the reduction in noise levels is a welcome improvement.

Most of the German competition go for a sporty feel, whereas the Mondeo Vignale is comfort oriented, which potentially gives it an advantage on the UK's poor roads.

Take a look at the spec sheet and the final price makes sense. The options list is very small indeed, while the standard spec runs to that sophisticated Sony system including satnav, a rear view camera, ambient lighting and a fully-electric driver's seat. A complete leather interior and the special alloy wheels come with it too. It's worth noting, however, that the key German rivals are very close on price, although, if you equalise the specification, a big price gap opens up.

So will the Mondeo Vignale find favour with customers, or sit forlornly in its special corner of the showroom? Well, the fact is that buyers do like high-spec Mondeos; the stats show that the Titanium X simply isn't enough for some. It's also a useful higher step for people climbing the company car ladder, and Ford is clear about most of its sales coming in this way. There's also a hybrid version if you want the petrol electric combination.

This car summed up in a single word: Soothing.

If this car was a: jacket, it would be sumptuous and welcoming woollen overcoat.

TESTED

Ford Mondeo Vignale 2.0 TDCI 180PS, £29,345

Engine:2.0-litre diesel unit producing 178bhp and 295lb.ft of torque

Transmission: Six-speed manual gearbox driving the front wheels

Performance: Top speed 140mph, 0-62mph in 8.3 seconds

Economy: 62.8mpg combined

Emissions: 117g/km of CO2

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Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai range: Urban 25.2 (11.2) - 78.5 (3.6), Extra Urban 38.7 (7.3) - 80.7 (3.5), Combined 32.1 (8.8) - 76.3 (3.7), CO_2 Emissions 231 - 84 g/km. Fuel consumption: figures shown are based on official EU test figures. These are to be used as a guide for comparative purposes and may not reflect all driving results.

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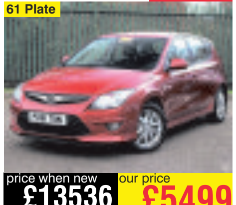

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12 Plate

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58 Plate

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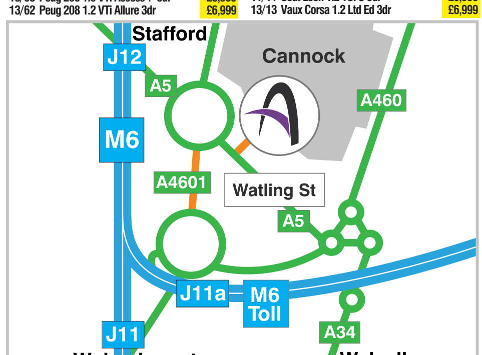

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Wolverhampton Chronicle Thursday, January 21, 2016

Kia Optima's evolution

By James Parker

The fourth-generation Optima has a modern, new exterior, a bold interior design with more space for occupants, new technologies and a wide choice of efficient powertrains.

The new model offers greater refinement and improved ride and handling over the outgoing model, while retaining the sporty image that has helped Optima become one of Kia's best-selling models worldwide.

The Kia Optima plays an important role in the Kia Motors Europe product line-up, introducing the brand to an increasing number of new customers. Since the third-generation model launched in 2011, with its distinctive look, high-quality interior and high-tech image, the Optima has offered buyers something fresh and different in the D-segment.

The all-new Optima's evolutionary new look was designed to be functional and sporty, with exterior dimensions that are marginally longer, taller and wider. These changes enable a roomier and more comfortable cabin, with more head-, shoulder- and rear-seat leg-room and greater cargo capacity.

This model is the most aerodynamic Optima to date, with drag reduced from 0.3 to 0.29 Cd.

The all-new Kia Optima will be available in Europe in a choice of nine colours, with alloy wheels ranging from 16-in to 18in diameter.

The material quality of the all-new Optima's cabin is significantly improved over the outgoing model, with a far higher proportion of soft-touch materials, as well as cloth and leather trim in natural tones.

Tasteful metallic accents throughout the cabin add a higher quality ambience to the interior.

The larger interior and exterior dimensions ensure that the all-new model is the most practical, spacious and comfortable. Cargo space has grown from 505 to 510 litres (VDA), with the under-floor storage area and a wider boot opening adding greater practicality.

High-strength

It features a uniquely engineered body which combines more high-strength materials than ever before, resulting in even higher standards of crash safety. While passive safety is improved, the new model is also equipped with a series of high-tech active and autonomous safety features, and Kia's engineers have targeted a five-star Euro NCAP safety rating throughout the Optima's development programme.

Kia's vehicle stability management is fitted as standard, ensuring stability under braking and cornering by controlling the car's electronic stability control and electric motor-driven power steering if it detects a loss of traction.

The Optima is available with a wide range of optional active hazard-avoidance technologies, depending on market.

The new model offers greater refinement and improved ride and handling

Improving ride and handling was a top priority for Kia's dynamic development teams, with a focus on delivering the ride comfort and stability customers expect from a D-segment sedan, while achieving the level of agility promised by the car's sportier appearance.

The all-new Optima debuts a number of new, advanced on-board technologies to improve usability, comfort and convenience.

The touchscreen infotainment system is paired with a six-speaker audio system as standard.

A powerful Harman Kardon premium sound system, featuring 10 speakers, an external amplifier and Clari-Fi MP3 restoration technology, is also available as an option.

The all-new Kia Optima will offer the company's unique seven-year, 150,000km warranty as standard.

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lost & found

LOST—Tortoiseshell Female cat, Tuesday,January 12, Springfield area WV10. Wearing collar and microchipped. 07752 911611

SIMBA

Has been missing from Northycote Lane WV10 since 9th December. He is a 7 year old black and white neutered male with a little tear in his left ear. No collar. He is micro chipped. A vet will scan free of charge to confirm owner. Please check your sheds and garages.

Any news appreciated good or bad text or call 07968 507566.

1 Family

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Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

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BOB 10yr lovely golden lab
RIGBY 9yr old Beagle, gentle affectionate
ERIC 14mth white/tan neutered jack russell, only dog preferred
01588 676106
www.dogsamaritans.org.uk

JACK RUSSELL puppies, Mom and Dad can be seen, tri colour, small legs, only bitches. 01384 233910.

TWO AFFECTIONATE neutrered 2/3 year old male cats looking for home together. House cats. 07847 360784.

WANTED KITTEN For elderly lady, genuine Cat lover. 01902 745868.

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5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

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6 Property

accommodation to let

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FLATS & FLATLETS - TO LET in Wolverhampton. New large 2 bedroom flats now available. Call 07590 911398 or 07428 226610

HIGH QUALITY STUDIO FLATS Tettenhall area. No DSS. 07976 263435 / 01902 700028.

ONE BEDROOMED Flat, central heated, double glazed, new carpets, Newbridge, £360pcm plus bills. Call 07886 002704.

ROOM FOR RENT Merry Hill, Wolverhampton, furnished, inclusive of bills, £350pcm. No pets, no smokers. 07973 780121.

THREE BEDROOM detached house, in Alveley (WV15), DG,CH, nice and clean. 07980 208994.

WOLVERHAMPTON Finchfield, WV3, Modern well presented 3bedroomed home, smart bathroom, well appointed kitchen, lounge, conservatory, central heating, garage, gardens, No DSS/ Pets £695 pcm. K Stuart Swash 01902 710626.

houses for sale

NINE BEDROOMED private house, Blackpool, by sea, ex B&B. £90,000. For details call 07515 258118.

WILLENHALL 1bed flat, refurbished, reduced price £72,000. No chain, No agents. 01952 616756.

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properties wanted

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7 Jobs

building & construction

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TRAINEE CLEANING SUPERVISOR for Wolverhampton based company to work across the West Midlands area. Morning & evening work available, must have own vehicle. £7.20ph, (review pending) + travel allowance 01902 459322.

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positions available for architectural metalworker. Minimum of 3 years' experience. Knowledge of bespoke staircases, structural glass balustrades and general metalwork will be preferably. Full job details can be found on our website http://www.structuralstairways.com/careers/4589172564.

All applications in writing to-
Mr D Goodwin
Structural Stairways Ltd
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Leys Road, Brierley Hill,
West midlands, DY5 3UP

Or by email to dgoodwin@structuralstairways.com

FULL TIME POSITIONS for an experienced Press Setter and Metal Polisher required for newly re-established business based in the Kidderminster area, excellent growth potential, salary package negotiable. Please contact Alex on 01443 815595 or 07764 688084

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www.phunkyfoods.com

engineering

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Email at:
sales@airasiatravel.co.uk

FULL TIME STORESPERSON required for established Wolverhampton company specialising in Security and Life Safety systems. Trainee considered. Email applications / CV only to jackiesmith@thompsonavc.co.uk

OPTICAL ASSISTANT Experience preferred, not essential. Enclose CV and hand written covering letter Mrs T Crane Director, Taylor Biddle, Opticians Ltd, 39 Bridgnorth Rd, Compton, Wolv. WV6 8AF.

TRAINEE OFFICE MANAGER required- full time. Suit someone looking to build a career within the building industry. Wednesbury based. £20-£22k p.a. Full driving licence required. Forward full CV to stuart@sbbs-site.co.uk

full time - general

Inside Sales Executive
at Made in the Midlands

This position is office based at our head quarters in Wolverhampton.

Your role will be to assist the sales team in researching prospects from local media and setting up appointments. It also involves inviting people by email and phone to events that we hold throughout the year.

We will provide you with sales industry accredited training, underwritten by Dale Carnegie, to kick start your career.

The position offers fast progression for right candidate. Starting salary £12-16k p.a. plus bonus, depending on experience.

To apply email ilona@firstorchard.com with your CV and a covering letter to tell us why you should get the job.

MADE IN THE MIDLANDS

TRAINEE ADMINISTRATOR
We are a busy and successful Financial Services Company and are looking for a well organised and confident Trainee administrator to work in our Wolverhampton Office.The position initially involves processing of new business and co-ordinating the activities of our consultants along with liasing with clients so good telephone and communication skills are essential. An attractive package will be negotiated with the successful applicant. This is a career opportunity as full training and exam support will be provided.

Please send a copy of your CV with details of your current salary to : - Mrs H Dhaliwal, Newell Palmer & Associates Ltd, Cleveland Court, Cleveland Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 3HR
harmesh.dhaliwal@newellpalmer.co.uk

Newell Palmer & Associates

South Staffordshire ageUK

Finance Manager (37.5hrs per week) and Payroll and Pensions Officer (22.5hrs)

Age UK South Staffordshire is the largest voluntary sector provider of social care in South Staffordshire. The charity employs 150 staff and has over 300 volunteers supporting a wide range of activities. We are currently seeking to develop our Finance and Payroll function with two new appointments:

Finance Manager £32,058 - £37,557 per annum depending on experience, Penkridge.

Managing the Charity's finance department, the Finance Manager will be a qualified accountant, an excellent communicator, adept budget manager, and be abreast of financial legislation relevant to charitable organisations.

Deadline for applications	Friday 29th January 2016
Interview date	Friday 12th February 2016

Payroll and Pensions Officer £23,907 pro-rata for 22.5 hours, Penkridge

We are looking for a methodical, organized Payroll and Pensions Officer with good administration and communication skills to lead on our payroll processing and pensions management. The successful applicant will be used to strict deadlines and is likely to have a minimum of five years experience operating a modern payroll system.

Deadline for applications	Friday 29th January 2016
Interview date	Friday 5th February 2016

For further information and an application pack for either jobs please access the **jobs and volunteering** section of our website www.ageuk.org.uk/southstaffs, and return your application and equal opportunities form to lisa.barlow@ageuksouthstaffs.org.uk by the closing date.

Age UK South Staffordshire is committed to a policy of equality and diversity.

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FIAT PUNTO, 2007, one former keeper, 43k, 5Dr, service history, metallic blue, MoT June, £1,850 o.n.o. 07923 132859.

FORD FOCUS 1.6TDCi 56 reg, 5dr, silver, long MoT, fsh, cam belt changed, £1,850 ono.
07584 232711.

JAGUAR S-TYPE 2.7 DIESEL 05 PLATE
Goodwood Green, full leather, 10 months MoT, Sat Nav, 6 track CD.
Very good condition.
£2,500.
01902 831158.

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LEXUS IS250 SEL
2006, only 19,000 miles, metallic silver, full leather/teak interior. Immaculate condition. Must be seen. Full Lexus service history.
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07961 829361.

VAUXHALL CORSA SXI, silver, 56 plate, 66,000 miles, petrol, manual, a/c, long MoT, CD player. £1,850 ono. 07496 243877.

VAUXHALL ZAFIRA Tourer, 2013, 7seats,12,500k , one lady owner, new condition. £7,500 ono. 01902 678849 / 07823 478968.

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01902 847906.

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED
that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

CITROEN BERLINGO VAN 2003. white, MoT till Aug 2016. £850. ono. Good clean van. 07576 308558

FORD FOCUS LX W reg, 5dr, 1796cc, petrol, black, six months MoT, £425. 07512 044868.

FORD KA 52 plate, 26,000 miles, good condition, 12 months MoT. £450.
07772 026508.

MERCEDES ESTATE C200 Classic, auto, MoT Aug, petrol, 1998, 120,000 miles, cream leather interior. £1,100. 01902 656816.

PEUGEOT 406 GTX 2.2 HDi, saloon, fully loaded, 02, 8 months MoT, 125,898k, blue, good condition, £895 ovno. 07885 255221.

PEUGEOT 406L Turbo Diesel Saloon, R reg, one previous owner, SH, 3 months MoT, £250 ono. 01902 419012.

RENAULT CLIO 1.2, 54 plate, 10 months MoT, alloy wheels, very good condition. £600 ono.
0121 530 9041.

RENAULT MEGANE 1400cc, 53 plate (2004). No MoT hence. £250. 01902 677133 / 07759 979415.

RENAULT MEGANE ESTATE Dynamique spec 1.5 DCi 2005, 99,000, SH, very good condition. Blue, 60 mpg, £30 Tax, 2 keys. £1,500. 07522 475039.

RENAULT MODUS 1.5DCi PRIVILEGE
2006, 06 reg, 3 owners, 108,000 miles, FSH, 11 months MoT, 55mpg, good tyres all round, recent service and MoT.
£1,195.
01902 753118, 07775 901378.

SABARU FORESTER, All Weather, silver, 03 reg., long MoT, fsh, lady owner, tidy car, £850 ono.
01902 791206, after 5pm.

SUBARU LEGACY ESTATE GL AWD 51 reg, blue, mot May, 70,000 miles, new clutch & fly wheel, clean car £695 ono 07949 447850.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0 3dr, 1999, 57,000 miles, MoT March, Lady owner, very good condition £500 ono. 01902 761701.

VAUXHALL CORSA red, 52 plate, 1.0, 3Dr, MoT'd, starts first time, good runner, £595.
07912 869829.

VAUXHALL VECTRA SRi, 1,8 petrol, 105k miles, black Mot Till Aug, many new parts, FSH, £1,500 onö. 01902 743352.

VW POLO, 51 plate, 1.9 TDi, saloon, silver, 161k miles, diesel. MoT Aug 2016. £400. 07930 374986.

classic cars

JAGUAR XJS 4.0
1991. Only 66,000 miles. Light metallic blue. Sports auto box. Heated leather seats. SH, 10 months MoT. Good condition for year.
£3,500 ono.
07904 662468 (Bridgnorth).

V W SCIROCCO 1991, 1 owner, metallic grey, MoT July, FSH, £2000. ono. 07866 410286.

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9 Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
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or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

public & legal notices

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (AS AMENDED)
ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991
SHAW HALL LANE, COVEN HEATH
DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staffordshire County Council, on 19th January 2016, made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding in that length of Shaw Hall Lane, Coven Heath from its junction with A449 (T) Stafford Road in a generally south westerly direction for a distance of approximately 685 metres unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the works; or unless the vehicle requires access to premises on the length of road or is being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes.

The preferred alternative route for traffic will be available via Ball Lane and the A449 (T) Stafford Road.

The Order will come into operation on 25th January 2016, and the said works will commence on or as near as practicable to that date. It is anticipated that the works will be completed by 19th February 2016.

The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months or until the cabling works, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road, have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

John Tradewell, Director for Strategy, Governance and Change
2 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH.

Ref: 29431; Enquiries: Customer Contact Centre;
Tel: 0300 111 8000 http://roadworks.org

Date: 21st January 2016

SURJIT KAUR (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of New Cross Hospital Wolverhampton WV10 0QP, who died on 04/11/2015, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 01/04/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
HUGH JAMES
Hodge House 114-116 St Mary Street
Cardiff CF10 1DY T461667

BRIDGET TANSER (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 6 Lawnside Green Bilston West Midlands WV14 6HW, who died on 05/08/2015, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned on or before 01/04/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
THE CO-OPERATIVE LEGAL SERVICES LIMITED
Aztec 650 Aztec West
Almondsbury Bristol BS32 4SD
(Ref: KAC/3668530P/Tanser) T461590

FREDERICK BERNARD ANSON (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of Flat 2 548 Wolverhampton Road East Wolverhampton West Midlands WV4 6AA, who died on 15/10/2015, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned on or before 01/04/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
THE CO-OPERATIVE LEGAL SERVICES LIMITED
Aztec 650 Aztec West
Almondsbury Bristol BS32 4SD
(Ref: KWA/3703283P/Anson) T461586

LICENSING ACT 2003
Application has been made by Maruthan Sabapathi, to the Licensing Authority of Wolverhampton City Council, for a premises licence in respect of premises known as: Beddoes Service Station, Neachells Lane, Willenhall, Wolverhampton WV13 3SJ.
The application includes the following terms: To enable the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises, between, Monday-Sunday 00.00 - 24.00 hours.
Full details of the application may be viewed at the Council Offices, Wolverhampton City Council, Civic Centre, (Reception 14), St Peter;s Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1DA. During normal office hours, Monday to Friday. Licensing@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Any representations by responsible authorities, or other persons regarding the application, must be made in writing to the above Licensing Authority and they must be received no later than 16th February 2016.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is £5000.

ROSELDA McLEAN (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any person having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 21 Duck Lane Bilbrook South Staffordshire WV8 1HU, who died on 06/10/2015, is required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned at the address below, on or before 01/04/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
The Executors of the Estate of the late Roselda McLean
PO Box 370 Stevenage
Hertfordshire SG1 9BB T461621

10 Personals

personal

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FEMALE 64 YEARS YOUNG
Looking for companionship for days out together, must like animals, to become my Soulmate if compatable.
Please place telephone number in your letter.
Box Number P20191 , Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

GENTLEMAN 5.5 73
Wishes to meet lady 50-3 for Friendship possible relationship.
Photo appreciated (returned)
Box Number P20192 , Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

MAN, 64
Semi-retired wishes to meet nice, caring lady.
Varied interests.
Dudley/Stourbridge and surrounding areas.
Box Number P20187, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

TALL, TRIM, ROUGH AND READY BUILDER
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THE GREENHOUSE SPA For Gay/Bisexual men. Jacuzzi & Rest rooms on site. Open 7 days a week. 2 mins J9/J10 M6. Call 0121 568 6126. www.gay-sauna.com

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Male 60 years young, with modern outlook, 5ft 11, medium build, considered attractive who has and enjoys most things in life, looking for that special lady 48-58 years, slim, attractive, NS, who enjoys life.
Stourbridge and surrounding areas.
If that's you please get in touch!
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LILY, genuine lady looking for a genuine man. I like cosy nights in and am a smoker. **Text only mailbox no: 5372466**

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673**

TRISH, 44, tall slim young/good looking GSOH, professional, solvent, OHAC, affectionate and loves TLC, WLTM male who also likes to be in a loving relationship, 39-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420601**

DISCREET man wanted by married lady for no strings fun. I'm called Sarah and am 37yrs. Pls call, ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 3007 Box 418167**

SAMANTHA pretty brunette, very busty 36, intelligent, independent with a real lust for life, seeks big-hearted stocky male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420599**

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. **Tel: No: 0906 515 3011 Box: 409715**

MADDIE extremely passionate female 37, seeks reliable male to enjoy the finer things in life and tactile relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420563**

LUCY first time advertiser, 32yrs, tall slim blonde airline worker, seeks discreet gent, any status for casual fling. Looks/age unimportant. **Tel: 0906 515 3027 Box: 420237**

CHRIS, 40, attractive slim sophisticated redhead, seeking male 30-50's to relax with and get to know. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420491**

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. **Tel: 0906 515 3019 Box: 413399**

SALLY, 24yrs tall brunette with feminine curves seeks mature older chap, 35+ for discreet fun only, must be experienced. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3031 Box: 420247**

LOUISE, 47, youthful looking female looking for spontaneous male to put some love and lust back into life. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420445**

SALLY, 24yrs tall brunette with feminine curves seeks mature older chap, 35+ for discreet fun only, must be experienced. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3028 Box: 420247**

ALEXA 49 - slim, attractive, long-haired music loving female, with many interests including dining out, the arts, photography WLTM similar male. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5345662**

YVONNE, single mum, happy with life, but would like to meet someone to share fun times with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420269**

LOUISE, pretty hairdresser, works long hours, finds it hard to meet a boyfriend, 34yrs, own flat. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4192572**

CHLOE pretty single female 36yrs, dark hair/eyes, slim build, very lonely and looking for reliable discreet male for mutual companionship maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420359**

JENNI, single mum seeks single dad, own home, can accommodate and loves spoiling her man. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4115108**

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416287**

JULIE, 47, blonde brown eyes, size 12, varied interests, loves cuddling, kissing and showing affection, seeks similar energetic male friend for TLC. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420357**

ANN,38, very attractive female, N/S, positive attitude to life, WLTM similar kind male with a lot of get up and go for romance and fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420355**

JACKIE lonely and looking for male company, 48-65. Need a bit of love and affection? Then I'm your girl. call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418169**

SARAH, curvaceous brunette, 35, passionate nature, solvent, OHAC, WLTM date again, looking for male to take me out. Looks/Age unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420207**

LYN, 43, divorced very lonely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive, WLTM similar male for companionship.
Age/looks/Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418795**

JANE, 47, voluptuous female, long hair, brown eyes, generous curves, would love to spend cosy nights in with that special male. Age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417985**

SUSANNAH, 48, curvy female, romantic, warm and cuddly, seeks similar kind male for a loving relationship with lots of cuddles and kisses. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417341**

KELLY young attractive vivacious 48yr old lady, loves good food, cosy nights in/out, holidays etc, WLTM male for mutual companionship **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420195**

CATHY, 42, good looking brunette with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, dates, chats, romance and more. Pls call. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420175**

TARA 22 tall slim but curvy with legs that go all the way up to heaven, WLTM very appreciative confident male for adult fun. Contact me anytime. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414701**

FEMALE, dark haired 5'10, curvy, likes reading, walking, cinema, seeks male 40-50 for lasting relationship. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5077545**

PROFESSIONAL black female age 52, enjoys evenings and days out, would like to meet similar Midlands male. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5315901**

CATHY, 42, good looking brunette with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, dates, chats, romance and more. Pls call. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420073**

MAGGIE, 72 yrs young, good sense of humour, well presented, WLTM kind, sincere chappie to share coffee and a chat. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5310040**

LOUISE 35, dark hair, blue eyes, attractive ex air hostess, looking for fun times with older male for romantic nights in and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420043**

39 yr old independent single Mom, knows the benefit of having a good man in the picture. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5084796**

FRANCES, 45, busty female, loves nights in/out, seeking uncomplicated male who can occupy my free time for quality companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420003**

FEMALE, seeks fun loving male who likes a drink and a laugh, to enjoy erotic experiences with a curvy brunette. Discretion guaranteed. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5079311**

MARY, pretty, friendly, lots of fun, lives in Kidderminster, loves the theatre, opera, ballet, WLTM a lovely, charming, funny, genuine guy, 30s, to settle down with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419883**

LOU, 45, lives in Shrewsbury, WLTM a lady between 42-49 with blue eyes, must be kind, caring and funny to mend my broken heart, someone who likes to curl up on the sofa for cozy nights in. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419855**

FREYA 24yr old single mum, looking for male for free time frolics, call me if you're interested, it could be fun! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419851**

LISA 38 slim attractive blonde, looking for a man who will appreciate a feminine, fashionable, fun, romantic sensual woman with a mind of her own. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419839**

SARAH 38, slim, nice looking, sensual, tactile, no ties, WLTM kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419821**

PAT 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418277**

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414773**

JULIA 47, looking for genuine, reasonably attractive male friend, may to lead to more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419695**

LADY Penelope seeks her very own Parker (47-58) to go on a voyage of discovery and romance. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4550237**

DEBBIE, 29, looking for mature professional fun guy, 40-50 to spend good times with. Call me, you have nothing to lose. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419075**

BLACK lady seeks white male over 60, any location, for friendship and hopefully a lot more. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4256384**

CHARLENE, 24, petite curvy young blonde seeks similar cheeky, fun loving guy for lots of fun and loving. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419597**

Single Men

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WAYNE, 40, cheeky, good career, likes gym. Looking for a lady who likes stimulating conversation and times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419829**

DARREN, 44, slim build, dark brown hair, green eyes, seeks genuine female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418809**

MICHAEL, school teacher, very shy and lonely, 42yrs, own home, car, seeks genuine caring lady. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4156561**

SLIM attractive man WLTM caring lady, 40-58, for friendship, reply and claim free hug. **Text only mailbox no: 4172082**

BLACK male early 40's, slim, looking for casual adult weekend fun with broadminded, easy going discreet female. **Text only mailbox no: 4656899**

CHRIS, male, 47, single, 5ft 8ins, blue eyes, brown hair, seeks female between 25 and 45 for fun and maybe more. Please get in touch. **Text only mailbox no: 5352046**

COLIN 48, kind, caring, loving, seeks kind, caring, loving, cuddly large lady, 40 to 55 for LTR **Text only mailbox no: 5308886**

45 year old male WLTM lady friend 35 to 55 who likes to enjoy life. **Text only mailbox no: 4215562**

MALE, five foot ten, stocky build, hazel eyes, just had heart broken, WLTM 40+ female for rendezvous and romantic nights in. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420543**

MALE, 44, blonde hair, blue eyes, attractive, enjoys outdoors, mountain biking, walking, countryside, cinema, days out, seeks genuine, loving female, 29-37, for romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420645**

ATTRACTIVE male, late 40's, seeks attractive female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 311713**

MALE, tall, slim, health professional, honest, easy going, seeks soulmate 45-60 for happy times and maybe romance. Derby area. **Text only to mailbox no: 5356854**

JOHN, 68, six foot three, salt and pepper hair, n/s, divorced, own business, WLTM a long-term partner to travel and enjoy the good things in life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420433**

HAPPY man 59 looking for a lady to share the good times. I enjoy cinema, eating out, pubs and holidays in hot places. **Text only to mailbox no: 4618385**

LONELY and broken male seeks female to show me what love is. **Text only to mailbox no: 5345658**

VERY useful, attractive 58 yr old, GSOH, six foot tall, nice build, n/s, genuine, tactile, fit and sporty, looking for a women for nights in and out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420135**

ADVENTUROUS 35yr old, slim, dark hair, likes music, cycling and photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417235**

COLIN 61, lorry driver, 5'10", blue eyes, kind hearted, romantic, hobbies include growing fuchsia's for showing and I have a vintage tractor that I play with from time to time. Looking for similar who's up for a lot of fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418463**

HANDSOMEguy, 49, seeks attractive, younger female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 316752**

TALL dark, good looking male, 53, seeks attractive female for daytime fun and exciting times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393380**

ATTRACTIVE male, 54, seeks attractive female for daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407915**

TALL, dark, slim, attractive guy, 48, seeks attractive female for no strings fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 299904**

TALL, dark, attractive guy 50, seeks attractive, tactile female for fun, excitement and lots of attention. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 314219**

SHROPSHIRE male, 50, tall, dark, attractive, fun loving, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 341387**

TALL attractive Shrewsbury male, 54, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement in the daytime. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411823**

COLIN 48, seeks cuddly large big beautiful woman 45 to 55 for LTR, love, romance, hopefully likes cuddles, kisses, holding hands. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5308886**

52YRS old guy genuine down to earth looking for Mrs right for nights in and out, walking, cooking, lives life to the full. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5331215**

MALE looking to meet a nice lady for fun times to spend with. I am 72 and would like to meet a lady between 60 and 70. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5332896**

PHILLIP, 29 years old, 5ft 11ins, stocky build, green eyes, friendly, GSOH, seeks genuine friendly n/s female for friendship, possible relationship. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5335424**

PHIL, 58, slim, OHAC, from Wolverhampton, looking for a fun lady for a no-strings relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420265**

GENUINE 56yr old male, divorced, OHAC, looking for nice lady for friendship, maybe more. Wolverhampton. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405551**

CARING male, 57, OHAC, looking for female, any race, status and age for no strings discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411461**

STEVE 39, 5ft 9ins, medium build, likes walks, seeks female, slim-medium build, single mum welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396709**

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Aldridge feel Payne of Lee's big break

LEE Payne was main man as reigning Aldridge Snooker League Premier Division champions Wednesfield Cons A boosted their chances of catching the top two.

Cons won 5-0 to take advantage of defeats for leaders St John's and second-placed Q Bar by demolishing relegation-threatened Aldridge Cons B. Payne set a new high break target for the division with a superb 91. There were also impressive wins for Simon Groves, Tony Davis, Paul Harrison, who rolled in breaks of 31 and 64, and Daniel Ward.

Runaway leaders St John's surrendered several unbeaten records as they went down 3-2 at Q Bar A after racking up a 2-0 lead. It meant a first reverse of the campaign for youngster Jack Harris.

Second-placed Cannock Cons B suffered a 3-2 reverse in a last frame decider at Landywood SC A.

In Division One, second-placed Stafford Road B suffered a surprise 4-1 loss at Golden Cue C.

Leaders' Bentley Moor A took full advantage to go seven points clear with a comfortable 5-0 home victory against Landywood SC B.

Bloxwich Memorial B strengthened their grip on third place and boosted their promotion hopes by whitewashing bottom club Birchills 5-0. Simon Kelly, Bob Davies, Charlie Fletcher, Dave Kelly and Martin Reilly were the winners.

Results – Premier: Aldridge Cons A 4 Ogley Hay 1, Golden Cue A 5 Old Hall 0, Landywood SC A 3 Cannock Cons B 2, Pelsall Social A 4 Victoria A 1, Q Bar A 3 ST Johns SC 2, Stafford Road A 3 Fishley Park 2, Wednesfield Cons A 5 Aldridge Cons B 0.

Division One: Aldridge Cons C 2 Darlaston Cons 3, Birchills 0 Bloxwich Memorial B 5, Essington WMC 1 Wednesfield Cons B 4, Golden Cue C 4 Stafford Road B 1, Lichfield Road BC 2 Bentley Moor B 3, Victoria B 2 Athenaeum Club 3, Bentley Moor A 5 Landywood SC B 0, Norton Vic 1 Q Bar B 4.

Jackett: I have final say on signings

WOLVES boss Kenny Jackett has underlined his role in signing players, insisting: 'They wouldn't sign a player I didn't want'.

Wolves moved to a more modern style three years ago with Kevin Thelwell heading up a recruitment team, with Jackett as head coach.

The coming weeks will be a crucial time for the club, with strikers and defenders needed to boost the ranks, especially in the wake of Benik Afobe's £10million move to Bournemouth. And the Wolves boss confirmed that no signing is made without his say-so.

"I'm part of the team/head of the team," he said.

"Certainly centre forwards are a breed on their own, they're certainly more expensive as well. Our recruitment team have a good knowledge of the market that is out there.

"They wouldn't sign a player I didn't want. But the idea is that they can be a lot more thorough than perhaps I could be. For myself, while you're playing your fixtures, that's when the games are.

"It's very difficult to see that player, so it does somewhere along the line go on to somebody else's judgement, but it has to be their judgement with your vision. It's your vision of where that person fits in, thus becoming a more thorough process.

"That's the idea these days and that's the way it works here. I'm comfortable with it."

Transfer fees in the Championship have rocketed this season. And Jackett, who said he has never signed a player he hasn't watched live, believes the quality of the division will continue to increase.

"Players see the Championship then as a gateway to the Premier League, but so should all of us," he said.

"It's a good thing and the finances of the Championship, the level of player, is going up, and because then more players come from around the world obviously the standard will continue to rise, and open up and be more attractive to some of the top players around the world if they can't get into the Premier League."

New engine ready to give Freddie the edge

WOLVES ace Freddie Lindgren is hoping to steal a march on the competition by committing to a new brand of speedway engine.

The GM has long been the weapon of choice on the shale – but former Swiss longtrack rider and ace tuner Marcel Gerhard has entered the fray with a new power plant.

A number of riders have dabbled with it in testing and the odd ride in competition. But Swedish ace Lindgren – who won last season's Olympique at Monmore Green aboard a Gerhard motor – has taken the plunge by ordering four for 2016.

"For this year I'm going to have two new ones for England and two new ones for Sweden and Poland," he said. "Hopefully that will be a good thing for me.

"I went to France with Marcel and tested there at the end of last year.

"It was really good and worked nice, so they asked me if I was interested in racing it for the last meeting in England, at Wolverhampton. I decided to do that and it worked a treat.

"They've been working a lot to get the power in it and they are really close now. They are very competitive.

"The one big thing is the reliability. It will last a lot longer, you don't have to service it as much and the potential in it is a lot bigger than the GM."

By being one of the first riders to commit to the new engine, Lindgren hopes to gain an edge.

"I think this one is a step into the future and I want to be on board it as soon as possible. It gives you an edge."

Tigers look to breed success for future

TETTENHALL Tigers coach Nick Shaffery hopes the current crop of enthusiastic youngsters can be inspired to become the volleyball club's next breed of coaches.

Tigers, based at the King's Church of England School in Wolverhampton, have around 60 members and can boast of stars that have represented England.

Shaffery, who set up the club 21 years ago, is delighted at how established the Tigers have become, but is also searching for ways to ensure they continue to represent Tettenhall for decades to come.

"We started with 16 children back in 1994 and they brought their friends along and the club just grew from there," he said.

"They have obviously now moved on and we're getting the next generation through which are friends of friends, and that's how we've evolved.

"I was a qualified coach, but you never stop learning do you? I've developed expertise as I've got older with a real interest in coaching children and youth rather than the adult elite.

"It feels like a good thing and it's just gone on and on. We love the volleyball so we just keep it going."

Presume

The PE teacher admitted that it was wanting to help coach his own kids that drew him into the idea of launching a club.

Shaffery, who is aided by fellow coach Steve Cousins, added: "I teach PE and I was doing lots of volleyball for everybody else's kids so I thought that I'd do some for my own.

"We started with 16 and I presume about five or six years down the line we were up to 30. There's probably about 60 altogether now which isn't too bad."

Shaffery's current aim is to push the 'middle' age range of the club, those between 14 and 16, to progress into helping the younger stars out.

The coach added: "The really diddy section is run by 14 and 15-year-olds who are doing their Duke of Edinburgh Award or just want to help out with a bit of coaching, which is great.

"I hope that the club can continue thriving as it has done. The next step is to find the coaches that are going to take over from myself and Steve in years to come for it to keep rolling.

"That's our plan at the moment.

"When they are aged nine and 10 until 13 or 14 you can have two-a-side and three-a-side matches – it progresses with the age. The kids seem to be quite keen even when they go through their teens. We lose a few when they go off to university but generally we keep the majority.

"Some will come along and find out it's not for them, but not many. We also try and encourage them with the refereeing and coaching so it's the whole sport rather than just playing."

The Tigers team up with local sides Redhill Club, from Stourbridge, and Cleobury Mortimer to form an alliance – Black Country Volleyball Club, which plays in the National League.

The Tigers' own side play in the West Midlands League. "The Black Country Club is an extra step for those players and a chance to push on and play at a good standard," added Shaffrey.

"The West Midlands League is pretty strong. Some clubs have national league players playing for them. We have three."

Tettenhall Tigers Volleyball Club coach Nick Shaffery, of Wolverhampton

Wolves clean up with Ajax ace Boilesen

AJAX defender Nicolai Boilesen is close to agreeing a £300,000 move to Wolves. It is believed a deal has been agreed in principle between the two clubs and Boilesen.

The 23-year-old must now decide whether to move from the Dutch giants to the Championship, or hold out for an offer from one of Europe's top leagues.

It was initially thought the Danish player was heading to England for a medical. However, representatives of Boilesen are thought to have been at Compton Park to finalise a move.

The left-back, who can also play at centre-half, hasn't featured yet this season owing to a contract dispute.

Capped 15 times by Denmark, Boilesen turned down a new deal last summer and boss Frank de Boer has refused to play him ever since. The 6ft 1in defender is club captain and has made 66 appearances for the club.

Ajax are willing to let Boilesen move now for a fee, instead of him departing on a free transfer in June.

Clegg setting his sights on an Elite target

CRADLEY teenager Max Clegg is targeting double-figure points every meeting – and that's just in the Elite League!

The 18-year-old will form a powerful spearhead with the National League Heathens alongside Ashley Morris.

The busy Yorkshireman will also ride in the Premier League for Edinburgh while holding down a reserve berth in the top flight with Wolves.

"I've always set myself some targets," he said. "I've achieved all the targets I've set myself. But I've got some more for this year.

"I definitely want to get double figures home and away this year. That's my Elite League target.

"I don't really have any targets for National League, I'm confident enough.

"The only pressure there is at Cradley is what I put on myself, I never get put under any pressure.

"And I don't really put myself under any pressure, to be honest! What happens, happens. I enjoy my racing."

Williams nets top prize in keen contest

DEAN Williams netted top prize in round six of the Bilston Angling Centre Individual Winter League.

A 25-strong field battled it out in a keenly contested match on the Bridge Inn Section of the Shropshire Union Canal in Brewood.

Penkridge-based painter and decorator Williams (Team Eclipse) clinched the win by less than two ounces on peg 14 with all roach to bread punch and hemp for 8-1-7.

Bilston Angling Centre's Barry Williams came second with 8-0-0 from peg 9, edging Wolverhampton AA VDE skipper Paul Turner into third with 7-6-0.

Gus Godfrey, of Penkridge, scaled 2-14-1 of mainly bread-enticed small and blade roach at peg five, in the Goodyear AC fixture on the Shropshire Union Canal at Rye Hill.

Skeete shooting for Sam's crowns

Boxing

STOURBRIDGE'S Sam Eggington will defend his British and Commonwealth titles for a second time in Birmingham against new foe Bradley Skeete on March 5.

Promoter Eddie Hearn won the purse bids to stage the contest at the Barclaycard Arena under his Matchroom Boxing banner, with Skeete guided by Frank Warren.

Eggington climbed off the canvas in the second round to retain his crowns at the same venue by outpointing Dale Evans last October.

The 22-year-old is now looking to within one fight of a Lonsdale belt, with his final test likely to be vacated champion Frankie Gavin. Skeete's only pro defeat came to Gavin for the same honours in November 2014, but he's since rebuilt his career with four straight wins.

The Londoner's WBO European title won't be on the line, though, nor will Eggington's WBC International Silver strap.

Essington's Ben Wilkes is confirmed for the under-card and faces a tough test in a 10-round final eliminator for the English middleweight title against Peterborough's Cello Renda, aged 30, who has twice reached the Prizefighter final and challenged for the English belt and was one half of the famous 'double knockdown' with Paul Samuels in 2009.

Wilkes admits he is the underdog, having spent five years out of the sport before returning this year, but has 10 wins, with just one defeat.

The 29-year-old, who has never been past six rounds, said: "He's a big name and it's a fight I fancied, wherever it took place. To have it on such a big bill is a bonus, really, and I want to shine.

"On paper, even to those who know boxing, it looks like an easy night's work for him, but I wouldn't be in there if I didn't think I could beat him.

"All the pressure is on him. If he beats me, it's the expected result and, if he loses, he'll be back to the drawing board."

Two other title fights see Brummie Gamal Yafai challenging for Bobby Jenkinson's newly-won Commonwealth super bantamweight belt. Older brother and reigning British super flyweight champion Kal Yafai will also feature, but his match has yet to be determined. A battle of Birmingham will see Michael Rooney and Marcus Ffrench meet for the vacant Midlands lightweight crown.

Tickets have already become available for 'Matchroom Fight Pass' members priced at £40, £60, £100 and £150 VIP, from www.theticketfactory.com

Meanwhile, Dudley's Ryan Aston is preparing for his shot at the big time in London tomorrow night (Friday).

Aston, 24, will undertake his first 12-rounder when he co-challenges for the vacant IBF International light middleweight title at York Hall.

Unbeaten

Undefeated opponent and co-challenger Ahmet Patterson is the favourite on his own turf, led by promoter Frank Warren whose television channel BoxNation will broadcast the fight live.

The 28-year-old, from East Dulwich, has already lifted the English and Southern area titles at welterweight. He's unbeaten in 16, with six stoppages.

Aston and Patterson serve as chief support on the card, with Ryan Walsh defending his British featherweight title for the first time against unbeaten Scot Darren Traynor at the top of the bill.

Wallace told to improve physical side

WINGER Jed Wallace needs to add physicality to his quality in order to become a Championship regular, boss Kenny Jackett believes.

The 21-year-old, who moved from Portsmouth in the summer, has joined League One side Millwall on a one-month's loan. Wallace had regularly been an unused sub at Wolves, with his last appearance coming in the 4-2 defeat at Derby in October. But he has started three consecutive matches for the Lions.

Jackett said: "It's a good move. For Jed – if he can just develop now physically I think he'll be strong enough to play in this league.

"Jed has gone straight into the team, which is what we want. For him to go one further and play first team football is good, and at a time where they've got a lot of games."

Play-offs the minimum target

WOLVES speedway team boss Peter Adams says the club's 2016 line-up represents 'Plan B' – but is expecting 'Plan A results'.

Adams and club owner Chris Van Straaten always carry out their winter team building along a Plan A, Plan B, Plan C and so on theme, depending on their success in attracting the riders they want.

And while some targets eluded them, Adams still has his eye on the Elite League play-offs.

"We've been speaking to a lot of riders over the winter, some really eye-popping examples," said Adams. "We were pretty close to talking a couple of them into rejoining the Elite League, or coming in for the first time. But I'm sure if you talk to any club they all have aspirations of doing this, that or the other and if they don't fall into place you have to do something else.

"I would say this is a Plan B team, but hopefully it will have Plan A results.

"I accept the fact that this is not the stand-out, wow factor, strongest team there is. But I'm equally encouraged by the fact that you can't show me four teams who are distinctly better.

"That means the play-offs are a distinct possibility for this season – and when you get there, it depends on who's doing better at that particular time."

Adams feels the contribution of Freddie Lindgren will be crucial. "If somebody said to you that in the coming season Freddie Lindgren would be back to what he was in 2009, 10 and 11 you would think this team has real possibilities.

"I know he is pretty determined to get back to where he was."

Adams expects an early indicator of his team's abilities should Wolves be handed their customary Easter clashes with the Belle Vue Aces.

"Belle Vue have got a particularly strong team," he added. "The fixtures will be out soon and I am expecting to have to meet them twice very early on, so that will be a good measure of where we are in March. But it's where you are in October that matters the most. It's a long road."

Jackett in the hunt to strengthen his attack

KENNY JACKETT has reiterated the need to sign a centre forward – but links to two former Albion players are believed to be wide of the mark.

One week on from the sale of Benik Afobe for £10m, Wolves continue to search for their ex-star man's replacement.

The head coach admitted Wolves lacked a 'specialist' to finish off one of the 18 shots they had at goal in the 3-1 home defeat to Cardiff.

"Maybe that's the case but scoring goals is not easy," said Jackett, who hopes to bring someone in before this weekend's trip to face QPR. The better your centre forwards are, the better your chances of winning games and that is an area we are looking at.

"We want to strengthen, definitely. It is an important window for us and we are always working towards it.

"There is nothing imminent but we are trying hard."

Chris Wood – who almost moved to Molineux in both of the last two summer transfer windows – may be surplus to requirements at Leeds United, where he has scored eight goals in 24 appearances this season, but it is understood Wolves will not move for him again.

Meanwhile, Kemar Roofe – who has netted 18 in 31 matches for League Two side Oxford United after leaving The Hawthorns last May – is another name to be linked to Molineux.

The 23-year-old is being watched by several Premier League clubs, but it is understood Wolves will not try to jump to the front of the queue.

Mark of Zyro as new boy makes impact

Wolves 3 Fulham 2

THERE was a former Molineux striker labelled 'the Pole with no goal'. But that cannot be levelled at Michal Zyro, who marked an impressive home debut with a brace.

Zyro netted in the sixth minute and again in the 13th to set Wolves up for a victory that was tenser in the closing stages than it needed to be. A 35-yard bullet from the unlikely source of makeshift left-back Matt Doherty – Wolves' goal of the season so far – ultimately proved the difference.

Fulham, who played some very easy-on-the-eye football, nearly ruined the Zyro party, but Wolves were good value for the fourth league win on the bounce.

Kick-off was delayed owing to a serious crash which had closed Waterloo Road, and before the game began there was a minute's applause to remember Roy Swinbourne and Sir Jack Hayward.

It was actually Fulham who looked the more dangerous in the opening exchanges, with Moussa Dembele scuffing a shot when well placed. But it was soon time for the Zyro show.

Slotting

Jordan Graham provided his eighth assist of his short Wolves career, beating his man down the left and crossing low for the Pole, who took two bites before calmly slotting into the corner.

And then – seven minutes later – he had scored his second, latching on to a through ball and holding off his man before sidefooting under Andy Lonergan.

Graham then almost set up a third, crossing for Edwards, whose header was brilliantly saved by Lonergan.

But a Cottagers goal was coming and it duly arrived on 24 minutes when Jazz Richards' pinpoint cross was headed home by Lasse Vigen Christensen.

Three minutes into the second half came Doherty's 35 yarder past Lonergan and into the corner.

But Ross McCormack ensured a nervy final 15 minutes.

However, Jackett made three changes to send on fresh legs up front and eat up some time. And in four added minutes they went untroubled as Wolves earned three more very welcome points.

Charity winner in rugby clash

Willenhall captain Simon Steed, of Walsall, left, and Pilgrim Bandits captain Ken Dowding

A RUGBY match featuring ex-military personnel and Willenhall veterans raised nearly £4,000.

The game at Willenhall Rugby Club saw the cash donated to the Pilgrim Bandits Charity, after a Military Select XV came out on top 33-12 against the Willenhall Veterans.

Former Paratrooper Dave Bentley, 31, from the Staffordshire branch of the charity, said he was delighted by the support shown for the cause. The charity hit the headlines recently when one of its patrons – West Midlands Ambulance paramedic Ben Parkinson MBE – kayaked down the Yukon river in Canada.

Pilgrim Bandits looks after wounded members of the armed forces, and emergency services, helping them in their rehab.

Mr Bentley said: "It was all for a great cause. There was a team of soldiers from around the country – both former and still serving – taking on former players from Willenhall.

"Then after the game we had a raffle, a barbecue and a prize auction. In the evening we all dressed as superheroes which was a bit of fun.

"Around 300 people turned out which was great - I'm chuffed."

Iorfa still has sights on a place in top six

DOMINIC IORFA insists Wolves are still looking at the play-offs as their target.

Two goals from Craig Noone and another from Joe Ralls gave Cardiff City a 3-1 win at Molineux on Saturday, ending Wolves four-game winning streak.

The result left Kenny Jackett's team eight points off the play-offs, but with 19 games of the season to close the gap. And Iorfa said top six was very much what the players were aiming for.

"We're still looking at the play-offs," he said.

"Even when we were on the bad run we were never looking at relegation, we know that with the players we've got we should be looking at the play-offs or promotion.

"If we bounce back at QPR, get a result, you never know what could happen.

"We're a close-knit bunch, everyone gets on well, and it reflects on the pitch, we all work hard for each other."

Iorfa admitted Ralls' goal, three minutes after half-time, was a sucker punch.

"To concede so early like that was disappointing," he said.

But Iorfa believes confidence has been restored to the Wolves team of late, with those four straight victories giving the players extra belief.

"The start of that period we came off the back of two bad defeats, it was more back to basics and being resolute as a team to try and grind out a result, we were desperate for a win at the time," he said.

"Since then confidence has come back into the team and we've started playing our attacking football we know we can play."

Sapphets still in mix for title after latest win

DIVISION 1 of the Wolverhampton City Netball League saw Sapphets continue their march to the title with a 32-15 victory over Chasetown Mix.

Second place Phoenix went down 16-20 to Sam 2, narrowing the gap for second place. Clubmates Sam 3 lost out to Whitmore Y 16-19.

Top of the pack Lucas overcame Ladybirds to retain their position and Dolls 1 put the pressure on Sam 4 to edge ahead 24-19. Fusion beat Whitmore T 37-11.

Phoenix Scorpions continued their winning form, while Eurostars and Jupiter both produced good wins over Cresta and Dolls 2 respectively.

Top of Division 5, Stourbridge Jets Blue saw off their closest rivals, Diamonds, with another strong performance resulting in a 21-6 victory.

Swim trio are handed 2016 Olympic boost

THREE teenage Olympic hopefuls from the West Midlands have been given a boost of making the squad for the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro after being selected for British Swimming's first overseas squad of the year.

Brittany Horton, from Brierley Hill, will be joined in the 34-strong team by Rowley Regis's Chloe Finch and Sutton Coldfield's Luke Davies for the Flanders Cup event in Antwerp from January 23-24.

Backstroke specialist Horton and freestyle swimmer Finch are both 17, while Davies – who competes in breaststroke – is 19.

British swimming legend Liam Tancock is among those also competing in Belgium.

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Win chance to take on darts pros

ASPIRING throwers have again landed a chance to play the pros in 'the FA Cup of darts' for the price of a pint – and this time there are two places on offer per event.

Wolverhampton's Rileys Sports Bar will stage two open qualifiers with the grand prize spots at the PDC's UK Open.

The 128-player field is made up of the top 96 in the UK Open Order of Merit, played between the pros, and 32 wild-cards who have come from Rileys clubs.

And four of those 32 will be generated at the Black Country's Rileys, with both winning semi-finalists going on to Minehead.

Only Wolverhampton and Rileys' flagship venue, London Victoria, will have four UK Open places available over two events. Eight others have two, with another eight granted one.

Tickets

The grand finals will be staged at Butlins for three days from Friday March 4, with the ITV4 cameras broadcasting one of the PDC's major tournaments live.

The first UK Open tickets to be contested at the Wolverhampton Rileys, Broad Street, come on Saturday, with the second event to follow on February 20. It's the fourth time UK Open qualifiers have been staged there.

Anybody aged 16 or over (on January 1) can compete in the qualifiers, but entry is not accepted on the day. The online cut-off is 48 hours before the event at www.rileys.co.uk/tournaments

Applications can be made in person at the venue or over the telephone up until midnight the previous day. Wolverhampton Rileys is on 01902 310 521.

Entry is just £6, including a free drink.

There is a strict dress code of trousers, shoes and either a shirt or polo shirt. Those who were a part of the PDC's Qualifying School last week cannot enter.

International call sees starlet Ennis off to the Algarve

WOLVES youngster Niall Ennis has been selected to represent England Under-17s in next month's Algarve tournament.

The highly-rated forward will travel as part of a 21-man squad to face Portugal, Germany and the Netherlands in the opening stages of the tournament from February 5-9.

England will then face Turkey, Ukraine and Finland in the Elite Round, held on home soil between March 24 and 29.

Ennis was on the scoresheet in the under-17s' last outing against Germany in a friendly victory at Rotherham United's New York Stadium.

The youngster is regarded as one of the brightest young talents in the country and has been described by Head of recruitment Kevin Thelwell as having a "lot of potential".

The starlet signed a three-year deal at Molineux in November, as Wolves looked to ward off reported interest from Manchester United, Manchester City and Chelsea.

Graham will come back stronger – boss

Football

WOLVES are facing up to life without Jordan Graham for up to a year with a knee injury suffered in the 3-1 defeat to Cardiff.

But boss Kenny Jackett has backed the winger to return stronger than ever.

Graham, who has made such an impression in the 12 games he has played since returning from Oxford on loan, tore his anterior cruciate ligament.

Jackett said: "It's disappointing for the lad and disappointing for the club, considering the start he'd made to his Wolves career.

"But the way to look at it for him now is that he's young enough to get over it. Many footballers have got over this, particularly at his age, and he can make his body very strong now in the next year.

"That's his target. He has to look forward. Plenty of people have overcome this and gone on to have long and successful careers and I'm sure Jordan will as well."

The club's medical boss says Graham's injury was caused by a 'freakish' situation when he was caught off balance. He joins Nouha Dicko in the treatment room, who suffered the same injury last August.

Head of medical at Wolves, Phil Hayward, said: "It was one of those almost freakish situations where he was caught slightly off balance and his knee went into a hyper-extended position and that is what did the damage. He is going to see a consultant towards the end of this week and will then have surgery in the coming weeks.

"It is very disappointing for Jordan because he has been doing very well but he is already feeling positive about starting his rehab and getting in here and working hard."

STRIKING NEED FOR GOAL MAN

Wolves 1 Cardiff 3

ONE accusation that can't have been levelled at Steve Morgan too often during his Wolves reign is that he's a glory hunter.

A rollercoaster eight-and-a-half years as owner has yielded success, yes, but the barb which greeted Morgan's surprise reappearance at Molineux was very much tongue in cheek.

He was also unlikely to have been taking advantage of the half-price ticket offer, as so many did in Wolves' biggest home attendance of the season.

A legitimate dig, though, is that he was an unlucky charm.

After all, Wolves had won four league games on the spin before Morgan had the temerity to show his face at the club he owns and has pumped millions of his own money into.

The motivation behind Morgan being back at Molineux after his self-imposed four-month absence was unclear.

He may have been showing new owners around the golden palace, or he may have just popped in having opened his cherished £6m youth centre in the city centre earlier that day.

Statement

But it is unlikely to have been anything other than a deliberate and calculated move. Donning his Wolves scarf, Morgan was making a visual statement. But was it a statement of intent, of showing who's boss, or testing the water ahead of a dramatic U-turn on selling the club?

And will what he would have witnessed on the field influence his state of mind?

Well, if he's of a sympathetic disposition, he might just put his hand in his pocket.

Because this game highlighted just how much Kenny Jackett needs some reinforcements.

In what was often an entertaining encounter, particularly during an 18-shot first half – nine for each side – when both teams left the handbrake off, Wolves were shown up as being the transitional, square pegs in round holes side that they are right now. Those ugly, defensive, backs-to-the-wall victories over Reading, Charlton and Brighton were necessary to pull clear of the bottom three, and then Wolves took full advantage of Fulham's glass defence to register their fourth straight win.

Wolves winger Jordan Graham leaves the field on a stretcher

But here, while adopting an attacking approach against organised, competent Championship opposition, Wolves came up short, particularly in the Cardiff box, where of their 18 shots in the match, only two were on target.

The need for a specialist striker is pressing.

Michal Zyro's three goals in two games have papered over that particular crack, but the Pole is a winger playing out of position, as witnessed with the poor timing of his runs, time and again, on Saturday. When James Henry sent a 'come-and-get-me' ball across the face of goal, deep into the second half, Zyro, Rajiv van La Parra and substitute Bright Enobakhare stood and watched it.

And, combined with the worrying sight of Jordan Graham being stretchered off, it's clear Jackett needs more attacking options at his disposal.

In defence, too, some spare players would be handy to breed much-needed competition among the centre-half positions. Wolves' defending was far too stand-offish and Cardiff took full advantage with three excellent long-range goals.

A second half comeback was beyond Wolves. If that isn't to be also true of their season, Morgan must get his chequebook out.

No Wolves sale on table, says Morgan

STEVE MORGAN has revealed 'no firm talks' are taking place over the sale of Wolves – after making a surprise return to Molineux.

The 63-year-old owner was in the directors' box to witness Saturday's 3-1 defeat to Cardiff City, the first game he has attended since resigning as chairman and putting the club up for sale last September.

Since then there has been constant speculation over the club's future but Morgan, breaking his silence, indicated any potential sale is still some way off.

"There is no update, we are not in firm talks with anyone," he said. "There is no update on what has been said in the past."

Morgan, who bought the club from Sir Jack Hayward for £10 in 2007, is thought to want between £30m and £40m and it is understood Wolves have spoken to several interested parties.

Morgan had not been seen at a match since the 2-1 defeat at Preston, after which he was confronted by angry supporters on the car park.

His shock announcement to resign as chairman and put the club on the market came two days later.

Yet head coach Kenny Jackett recently confirmed Morgan has been in 'constant contact' with the Wolves hierarchy.

His attendance at Saturday's game followed the official opening of The Way, a new £6million youth centre in School Street.

Morgan has long been criticised by some sections of the club's support over a perceived lack of investment in the first-team and those views were reflected in numerous comments posted about his return. Yet others were more positive with one, Harry Hooper, writing: "He should be welcomed back. I can't see anyone buying this club quickly."

Elwiss keeps place for England tour

WOLVERHAMPTON cricketer Georgia Elwiss will head to South Africa next month after retaining her place for England Women's six-match tour.

England face South Africa in the first of three One Day Internationals in Benoni on February 7, followed by clashes at Centurion and Johannesburg on February 12 and 14, with skipper Charlotte Edwards set to win her 100th ODI cap in Centurion.

They will then play three Twenty 20s in Paarl, Cape Town and Johannesburg on February 18, 19 and 21 – the final two as double-headers with the mens' sides in Cape Town and Johannesburg.

★★★

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